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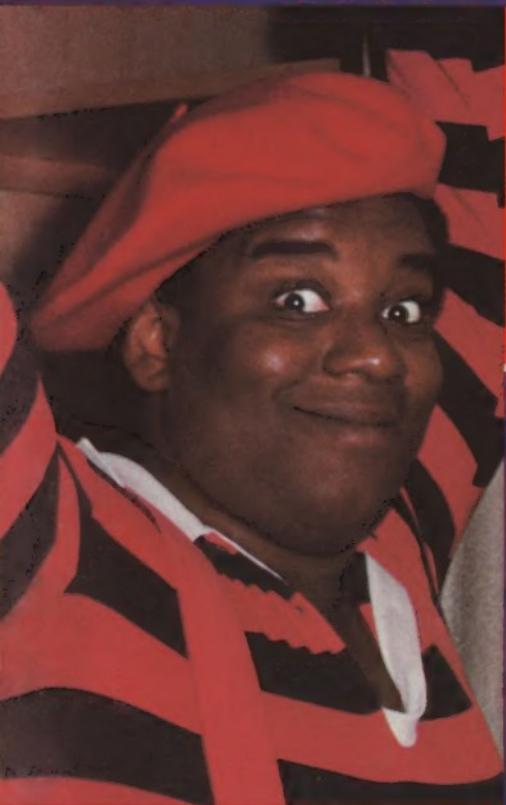
# Right On!

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HE TELLS  
ALL!!

FEBRUARY 1977  
SEVENTY-FIVE  
CENTS



FREE: JIM KELLY BONUS COLOR  
PIN-UP!  
THE SYLVERS TOUR WITH THEM!  
WHY DENNIS QUIT THE TEMPTS!!!

"WHAT'S  
HAPPENING!"  
TV'S BIG HIT!!!  
**FRED BERRY HAYWOOD**  
**NELSON ERNEST THOMAS**



ALSO:  
THE JACKSONS'  
TV SHOW  
PARLIAMENT'S  
"P-FUNK" TOUR  
LAWRENCE-  
HILTON JACOBS  
THE BROTHERS  
JOHNSON

# FOSTER SYLVERS!!



COLOR  
*Righton!*  
**BONUS!**

# Right On!

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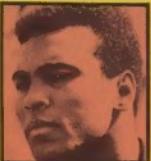
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS FEBRUARY, 1977 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 4

Muhammad Ali has never made a movie before and he's starring in his first one. Get all the details in this exclusive chat with one of our fantastic writers. Do you dig him? Don't miss this article then. It begins on page 14!



Jim Kelly is a nut when it comes time to take pictures. We gave you a color bonus pin-up plus all the details of the fascinating photo session. Jim's gotten so handsome since we last saw him, that we're sure you'll find him irresistible. Catch him on page 44.



The Sylvers are nice people but they say you never know a person 'till you live with 'em. Well, Right On! didn't move in with the Sylvers. Just traveled with them. Read part one and be ready for part two. Begin on 47!



Whatever happened to the Vandellas? We were wondering that too, so we got hold of Martha Reeves who knows the whole story. If you're not hip to her, you will be. See page 54! And we know you'll love her too.



BY CYNTHIA HORNER

What's Happening!" is back on TV and two of the stars, Ernest Thomas and Fred Berry got together to rap about their exciting new careers as "Roger" and "Rerun" on what might be the season's biggest hit.

Ernest plays Roger, the person whom most of the episodes will center around. Rog is a straight-A student who's so bored with school that it causes him to play many practical jokes on teachers and friends alike. Ernest can really identify with this character since he was a bright student in school himself, so the pranks Roger plays are simply things that Ernest might have secretly wished he could have done!

On-camera Ernest looks a little reserved and quiet. His horn-rimmed glasses and overall serious nature make him the perfect target for teasing, most of which he gets from his little sister Dee (Danielle Spencer). If there's a tale to tell, Dee will sure tattle it! She never fails to get him into trouble with his mother (Mabel King). But Ernest can depend on sympathy from his two partners Dwayne (Haywood Nelson) and Rerun who

that Hollywood was 'Hollyweird.' So I said, 'no, I don't wanna go through any changes like that.' Just when you're on your last leg it seems like God or whatever you want to call it, comes through to your rescue," said the Gary, Indiana born actor.

### ERNEST FINALLY GOT A BREAK!

Relief came to him in the form of \$200.00 sent by friends from back home. Shortly after that, Ernest, who had bugged every agent in town, managed to convince someone that he had talent, so when he auditioned for a part on "The Jeffersons," he got it and from there, his future brightened.

His part as one of Lionel's no-good friends led to a part on "Grady" where he did an impressive improvisation with Whitman Mayo. Isabelle Sanford was so impressed by this young actor that she recommended him to ABC. So when the idea for "What's Happening!" came up, Ernest was in the right place at the right time. But the first pilot attempt went so badly that the entire cast was fired except Ernest. So Ernest's cup of

plained seriously.

Ernest's conscientious attitude makes him the perfect person to play Rog, especially since Rog breaks his back trying to help friends such as Rerun. What's Rerun like? We'll ask Fred Berry to tell us?

"He's supposed to be one of Roger's best friends," Fred said thoughtfully in his dressing room just before the TV taping. "He's always the smart-alecky cat who's not really too hip in school. He's more of a street-type cat—street life, he's smart like that. He's good at getting *into* scrapes and good at getting *out* of scrapes! He's a lot of fun. He always wears these baggy pants with suspenders and a tam. Always some type of tam."

### FRED BERRY WILL EXHIBIT HIS DANCING ON THE SHOW

Fred says he identifies with the character Rerun, at least clothes-wise! He said he very seldom wears straight leg pants and always wears tams or hats. "I'm into a lot of different clothes, 40's, 50's, all kinds of stuff. I've traveled all over the



Fred Berry, wearing the tam we'll never see him without, makes an effective "Rerun." You know where he got his name? Well, every summer he has to repeat all the courses he failed during winter! Don't laugh, it's true!



The three were probably also chosen for their ability to laugh a lot 'cause a lot of jokes are told on this show. Some are kinda corny.



Ernest Thomas poses smilingly with his cast member Shirley Hemphill who portrays a nice but wise-cracking waitress at the soda shop hang-out where you know Rerun loves to visit.



Comrades Haywood Nelson, Ernest Thomas, and Fred Berry have all seen each other perform professionally; probably never dreamed that they'd one day be working together!!!



They all like dancing pretty well, especially Haywood, who likes parties. So does Fred!!!



A one, and a two, and a three! The three guys rehearse for a skit on the "Captain and Tennille" show. They've also appeared on "Cos," and "Donny & Marie," all the ABC TV shows.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING!

stick with him until things get worse. Then they conveniently find some excuse to split.

Ernest, in a way is a "Charlie Brown" type character in that somehow, things never work out the way he wants them to. But unlike Charlie Brown, Roger does have a very close and friendly relationship with his pals and things usually work out for him pretty well in the end.

Whether Roger ends up in trouble with his strict mother or not, Ernest is certainly grateful to have the opportunity to appear in a weekly series as the star of the show. In fact, he can hardly believe his good fortune these days since he once went a couple of days without food and didn't know where his next dime was coming from.

"I really went hungry—two days without any food at all and I was afraid to ask anybody since I heard

world, all over the United States to go to secondhand stores and find all the old goodies. I take twenty dollars and buy a new wardrobe every month."

Since Fred is a five year member of the talented Locker dance group, you'll see him cutting up a storm on the show. "I've been locking for about five years. I'm the only one who knows how to do that around here. As a matter of fact, there's maybe only ten people in the whole world who know how to do it and do it well, enough to make money at it. So as far as dancing goes, I dominate the whole show.

"I'll have certain scenes like a skit where I do a commercial, or we're in the soda shop I'll be doing a little dance, or we're at a party, and it just becomes more of a little show than just a dance. Locking is a show—it's not just a regular dance."

Although Fred has been a professional dancer for quite some

time, this is his debut in the acting world. He's the only one of the trio who hasn't had any experience. "Everybody tells me I'm a natural, so I guess I am. The training that I'm getting is on the job. Dancing is kinda like acting... facial expressions and moves, and things like that. I've done little skits and I write too. I write poems and things like that."

Newcomer or not, Fred is moving up very fast in this business! Since the trio has appeared on several TV variety shows, Fred has gotten quite a bit of exposure. An especially exciting thing happened to him a few weeks ago. Sidney Poitier spotted him performing on the "Cos" show, and immediately contacted him and offered him a part in a movie!

Yes, the pastures are certainly greener for these two members of the "What's Happening!" cast and if the show keeps pulling in those top ten ratings then they won't be complaining that pastures are greener on the other side of the fence 'cause they'll have all the green—in their back pockets!

## FEATURES

## TALENTED, PROFESSIONAL SHOWMEN!

AND THEY ALL WORK  
TOGETHER LIKE MAGIC!  
READ ABOUT IT! ALL THE  
PROS WERE CAST IN  
THIS SHOW!





**"WHAT'S HAPPENING!"**



COLOR  
*Rhythm*  
**BONUS!**

# MAN TO MAN: LARRY JACOBS RAPS ABOUT LIFE, LOVE, AND HIS FUTURE PLANS!

One of Larry's first films, "Death Wish," was on TV recently. He played a NYC mugger!



BY STEVE MANNING

Freddie "Boom Boom" Washington, co-star of ABC-TV's smash comedy "Welcome Back, Kotter" is equally known to millions of young ladies and fans as Lawrence (Larry) Hilton Jacobs. For the past two years Lawrence has been delighting television viewers with his weekly television appearance as a high school student. In this exclusive interview for *Right On!* Magazine, the handsome twenty-three year old Virgo discussed his rapidly changing and extremely successful career.

"I can't be more than honest to say that 'Welcome Back, Kotter' has done some great things for me," said Larry as he pondered about his success in the television role. Continuing his comments about the fame and fortune he has recently acquired because of the television show he says, "I can be freer in my thoughts because I don't have money on my mind to worry about. No wait a minute, Steve, before folks think I'm rich. I'm not rich but basically what I was trying to say is that because of the success of 'Kotter,' it has let me enjoy a variety of the finer things of life; which I'm very happy and grateful about."

Acting on a weekly television series is no easy task and all cast members of the show usually get

LARRY'S INTO  
MANY THINGS BESIDES  
"WELCOME BACK, KOTTER!"  
CHECK OUT WHAT DIRECTION HE'S  
GOING IN NEXT! **|||||MORE►**

**CONTINUED**

Larry has made a variety of TV appearances recently. Did you see him on "Captain and Tennille"? He sang and did skits. It was great!



He told the reporter he's been fixing up a classic old Mercedes which he's been wanting to get. Now he can buy almost anything he wants. It's nice to have the finer things!

Larry is one of the lucky actors who got a part in "Roots," so you'll be seeing him in one of the 12-part episodes pretty soon!!!



When Larry visits his home state, New York, he visits his friends Leon Pinkney and Irene Cara. The three of them really have a ball!!



As a "sweat hog," Larry is close to the other cast members both on and off camera. Sometimes they go places together after work!!!

together and relax after the heavy television taping schedule is over. "Robert Hegyes, Ron Palillo, John Travolta, Gabriel Kaplan, and John Sylvester White who plays the principal and I are very close off stage as well as on the set. You know many television shows' actors go on strange ego craziness trips after a year. I must say that didn't happen to us on the show. We are all enthusiastic about doing the show."

Lawrence commented that on many occasions the cast members "hung out together" and check out social functions, attend concerts, or visit each other's homes.

It's quite obvious that the talented actor enjoys the pleasures of acting, by checking out his heavy work schedule. "In Alex Haley's upcoming television epic, *Roots*, I got is one of the segments with Leslie Uggams who portrays my seventeen year old girl friend, while I'm supposed to be her eighteen year old fiance," said Larry. In addition to *Roots*, Mr. Jacobs revealed to me that he portrays a junkie in an upcoming "Baretta" show.



### LARRY'S PLANNING A RECORDING CAREER!

He is very proud of his participation in an upcoming documentary on Teenage Alcoholism that he had the pleasure of hosting; when he says, "Beating The Blues Blues" is the title of a documentary I hosted recently for a television special. It's a very interesting program. Young people in a high school in Los Angeles do these skits and I'm the man on the street interviewing the cats. It was very surprising to learn that so many young kids don't know why they drink alcohol, they just know they

do. The pros and cons of the subject are closely looked at."

In my conversation with Lawrence, I discovered that the brother has always desired to sing. Well *Right On!* readers, you read it here first! Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs will soon not only please you on the tube, but also the radio via recordings. "Steve, I just signed a deal with ABC Records to record a whole album. I wrote most of the material myself. I'm very excited about this particular project," said Larry happily.

Continuing his comments on his recording career, he says, "I've been looking forward to recording an album for a long time. It's something I wanted to do for a long time. Everyday I've been singing my lungs out."

There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that Larry's recording career will be met with equal success. So all you male solo stars watch out, cause L.H.J. is coming your way.

The former New York City resident realizes and admires the tremendous number of fans he has acquired through the television program and "Cooley High." I feel very good about the recognition I have. It's kind of exciting, but sometimes being popular can get in your way. I get stopped a lot when I'm on the street, just being around the general public."

Discussing what he likes in ladies, Lawrence stated: "I don't have any kind of rules for whatever kind of woman I like people, ladies, for whatever they are. Of course, I prefer an attractive young lady like a lot of men, but my mind is beyond that. It's not important. Let me say this, I don't judge girls by former relationships. If I happen to have had a bad relationship with one girl and I start out new with another lady, I don't let my last relationship interfere with the present one."

Lawrence has adjusted to the California style life which is very relaxing, quite well. I love New York, that's my heart. I've accepted Los Angeles as my home now, it's a different life, a lot of fun, real relaxing to me."

With the personality and talent Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs has, this man's already energetic, high paced career is just beginning.

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- I HEARD THAT!
- MAKE IT FUNKY
- SWEET THANG
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(R.O.2-77)

# WHAT'S HAP'NIN'...!!



Al Green recently purchased a church for the grand sum of \$355,000 in Memphis! Green's new single, "Keep Me Cryin'," is great!!!

**GEOGE "LIGHTNIN' LICKS"** JOHNSON was preparing to go onstage at the Coliseum in Charlotte, South Carolina with his brother **LOUIS "THUNDER THUMBS" JOHNSON (THE BROTHERS JOHNSON)** recently as the crowd watched in horror when **GEORGE** fell off the stage. The Coliseum was last used for a hockey game and the ice was re-covered. What they failed to do, according to the **JOHNSONS'** press agent, was to cover the part of the stage where the artists entered. Fortunately, **GEORGE** only suffered minor bruises on his back and shoulder. He didn't feel any pain until after the performance, and his girlfriend, **CAROL**, rushed him to the dressing room to determine the extent of his injuries. Apparently **GEORGE** was more concerned about his guitar than himself, because when he was falling, he held his gui-



As expected, the O'Jays hit gold with "Message in The Music." Everything they record turns to magic, or millions, it should be said!



Posing with Don Cornelius of Soul Train are Ronnie Dyson and Aretha Franklin who appeared on the show. Both have hot tunes out.

tar ten feet in the air to prevent damage.

**THE AVERAGE WHITE BAND** wrapped up the autumn wing of their U.S. tour recently at Honolulu's Blaisdale Arena. At the same Arena last February, then known as H. I. C. Auditorium, the group broke **JOHN DENVER**'s long standing attendance and gross record at the venue.

Angelenos were treated to an unexpected appearance by **MARVIN GAYE** at the Hollywood Palladium's Halloween bash when he jumped on stage during **AWB**'s encore of "I Heard It Through the Grapevine."

**LAMONT DOZIER** and **BEN. E. KING** teamed for **KING**'s new single "Somebody's Knocking" (written by **DOZIER**). The single will be included in **KING**'s next album **RHAP-**

**SODY**, scheduled for an early '77 release.

Bassist **STANLEY CLARKE** was recently named "Best Bassist" in *Guitar Player*'s magazine annual awards poll. The editor of the publication sent **CLARKE** a Western Union Telegram inviting the artist to personally pick up a silver bracelet in his honor.

Meanwhile, **CLARKE** has announced his first tour as a solo artist. His newly assembled band features guitarist **RAY GOMEZ**, keyboardist **DAVID SANCIOUS**, drummer **GERRY BROWN**, and **CLARKE** on bass and vocals.

The tour which opened in November at the Palladium in New York coincided with a rush release of "Hot Fun," the first single from **CLARKE**'s *School Days* album. The flip side, "Life Is Just a Game," was completely re-recorded in a new four-minute version with guest personnel listed on the label (the first time this has ever been done): **CLARKE**—bass and vocal; **JEFF BECK**—guitar; **GEORGE DUKE**—keyboard; and **NDUGU**—drums.

**CLARKE**, winner of "Top Electric Bassist" honors in both the International Critics and Readers' Poll of *Down Beat* magazine for a second consecutive year, also taped the *Down Beat* "All Star Award Winners" special in Chicago. The program features *Down Beat* award winning **BILLY COBHAM**, **JEAN-LUC PONTY**, **CHICK COREA**, **RON CARTER**, **GEORGE BENSON**, and **THAD JONES**. Special will air on PBS in '77.

**AL GREEN**, ordained a minister last summer, fulfilled a three-year aspiration when he purchased the predominantly white Whitehaven Assembly of Good Church for \$355,000 in Memphis. Renamed Al Green's Full Gospel Taber-

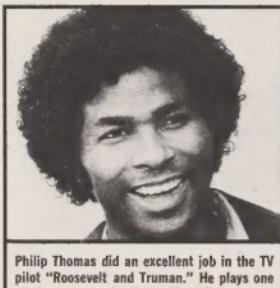
# WHAT'S HAP'NIN'!!

nacle, the composer-musician-songwriter has 24 gold and platinum records to his credit including "Jesus is Waiting" and "Take Me to the River," tunes which hold gospel messages. The Tabernacle has two buildings which house a cafeteria, three sanctuaries, a prayer room, and ten classrooms. **GREEN** said in announcing the purchase of the church that "it will be a center of divine power."

**REDD FOXX** continues to expand his enterprises. This time his business, Eff-Oh-Ex-Ex, has moved into the heart of Hollywood into a four-story building. The facility, according to **FOXX**, includes a 200-seat night club which he will use to showcase and rehearse clients now under his management. **FOXX** is making his last appearance on this season's *Sanford and Son* on NBC-TV.

**RAY CHARLES**, and **CLEO LAINE** teamed for the first time in their illustrious recording careers to put together an album package of one of opera's classics, "Porgy and Bess." The **DUBOSE HEYWARD** novel has an illustrious background when it first opened on October 10, 1927 and still plays to thousands today.

**RAY CHARLES** adds yet another dimension to a reputation, a career, and to a person larger than life. "**RAY CHARLES**," said **FRANK SINATRA**, "is the only genius in our business." "My people made me," said **RAY CHARLES** the man, "and I can always go back to them." Among his musical accomplishments **RAY** plays a razor sharp game of chess, possesses the technical knowledge to pilot a plane, and has been known to ride a motor scooter. **CHARLES** also taught himself to play and write for every brass and wind instrument in an orchestra,



Philip Thomas did an excellent job in the TV pilot "Roosevelt and Truman." He plays one of the owners of a bail office. The scrapes they encounter! This one could be a winner!

specializing in piano, organ, and sax.

British born **CLEO LAINE** made her American singing debut at New York's Lincoln Center in 1972, and has been appearing across the country since. One music critic recently hailed her as simply "the greatest singer in the world."

**VENETTA FIELDS** called to let me know before flying to Baltimore to sing background for **ARETHA FRANKLIN** that she just completed singing background on the theme song for an upcoming pilot series for CBS-TV, "Truman and Roosevelt." In addition to singing, **VENETTA** also captured a role in the pilot. Meanwhile, she's busy gathering musical material for her first solo album.

When **OTIS REDDING** died tragically in an airplane crash in '69, the **BAR-KAYS** were also on the same flight. The group, led then and now by **JAMES ALEXANDER**, was the only survivor of that fatal crash. Since then the new **BAR-KAYS** with **ALEXANDER** at the helm received critical success on the Stax-Volt label appearing with **ISAAC HAYES** on his memorable **HOT BUTTERED SOUL** and **SHAFT** albums.

The group just released its first

album in three years, *Too Hot To Stop*, on Mercury Records. After ten years of ups and downs the **BAR-KAYS** are ready to tell the world exactly what soul means.

The legendary **CHI-LITES** with a few personnel changes have a cooker! Their debut album for Mercury, *Happy Being Lonely*, should keep them on top ("More Power to the People," "A Lonely Man," "Stoned Out of My Mind," and many more). The new group consists of original members **MARSHALL THOMPSON** and **ROBERT "SQUIRREL" LESTER**. **AARON FLOYD**, **DANNY JOHNSON**, and **DAVID SCOTT** round out the group.

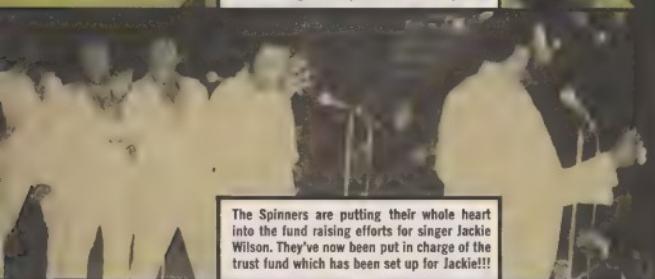
**MASS PRODUCTION**'s *Welcome To Our World* on Atlantic's new Cotillion label contains non-stop dance material from start to finish. The ten-piece group from Richmond, Virginia have been involved in various aspects of the music business including its technical aspects for nearly twenty years.

With *Songs In The Key Of Life* estimated to sell millions, **STEVIE WONDER** is already working on his next project. In a recent interview, **STEVIE** surprised many readers. "I want to do an album called *The Writers*, using songs by other artists, some of whom may be known and some unknown. I would love this because it would give me a chance to work with a wide range of musical ideas and lyrics. It'd be a challenge." There's no doubt that he'll put as much work in his next release as he did on his last one (two years). **STEVIE** wants to start work on the album by March.

# WHAT'S HAP'NIN'...!



The spicy Supremes have a new album out called "Mary, Scherrie and Susaye." And their sound's as great as photos on record jacket.



The Spinners are putting their whole heart into the fund raising efforts for singer Jackie Wilson. They've now been put in charge of the trust fund which has been set up for Jackie!!!



Poor George Johnson almost broke his back and guitar recently when he fell off a concert stage as the crowd watched in horror. Wheew!

*Happiness Is Being With The Spinners*, the sixth album on Atlantic by the **SPINNERS**, has been certified gold by the R.I.A.A. The album is the group's tenth certified gold record on the label, and their first gold record since resigning for a five-year exclusive world wide contract last January. The magical genius of **THOM BELL** is again evident in the group's success.



Two looks at Jimmie Walker as he attends some celebrity affair. Wonder what he's doing with his sweat suit on? C'mon' tell us Jim!

**B. B. KING** Day was proclaimed in October in Elizabeth, New Jersey. The City's mayor presented **KING** with a key to the city and renamed the Regent Theater to the B. B. King Theatre for the Performing Arts.

**HAROLD MELVIN AND THE BLUE NOTES FEATURING SHARON PAIGE** recently performed in a pre-game show at

Yankee Stadium when Bethune-Cookman College of Daytona Beach, Florida met Forfolk State College of Virginia in a battle of college champions. **MELBA MOORE** sang the National Anthem and **CONNIE PARK** the Black National Anthem ("Lift Every Voice"). Members of the **BLUE NOTES**, managed and produced by **HAROLD MELVIN** include **DAVID JOHNSON, BILL SPRATELY, DAVID EBO, SHARON PAIGE**, and **JERRY CUMMINGS**.

"The kind of songs I write and like to sing are songs about real life problems, songs of truth," so says **DENISE LaSALLE** about her new album, *Second Breath*. "They take me right to the hearts of people. I like to rap with them, and they seem to like that. The ladies will be shouting 'Tell it like it is girl' and 'right on.' It makes you feel good." *Second Breath* is packed with blues goodies.

**JOHNNY BRISTOL**, on a cross country promotional tour of his debut album for Atlantic, *Bristol's Creme*, started it off with a bang when Atlantic hosted a cocktail party at Beverly Hills' posh Bistro. Many turned out to congratulate **JOHNNY** on a fine album. He ranks among the best balladeers in the soul market.

New York's own award winning Producer of the Year, **JEFF LANE** recently presented **BRASS CONSTRUCTION**'s million seller album to former Vice-President **NELSON ROCKEFELLER**. **LANE** produced gold and platinum albums for **BRASS CONSTRUCTION** and **B. T. EXPRESS**.

So much publicity (and well deserved) has been printed about **BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS** that the press sometimes overlooks another superstar in the same musical category. **JIMMY CLIFF**, reggae empressario, is a living symbol of modern Jamaican music. Pick up a copy of *In Concert—The Best Of Jimmy Cliff* and hear reggae's music finest. You might also remember **CLIFF** in his film debut "The Harder They Come."

If you haven't already noticed, watch **MIKE EVANS** on "The Practice" starring **DANNY THOMAS**. **MIKE** was the original Lionel on "The Jeffersons." In "The Practice" he plays a med student, whom **THOMAS** takes a liking to.

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# MUHAMMAD ALI TELLS ABOUT HIS UPCOMING BID FOR MOVIE STARDOM!



Here's Muhammad Ali as you often see him, eyes flashing, & shouting at the top of his lungs. He didn't get where he is being meek.

EXCLUSIVE!!

**"I AM THE GREATEST,"  
HE IS KNOWN TO PRO-  
CLAIM LOUDLY. AND  
WE'LL ALL SEE JUST  
HOW GREAT HE REAL-  
LY IS WHEN HE STARS  
IN HIS VERY FIRST  
FILM ROLE, 'CAUSE  
THIS CHAMP'S ALWAYS  
A WINNER.**

BY CLIFF HARRINGTON

**I**magine! Mighty Muhammad Ali starring in his own film biography!

For a long time we have been reading about the upcoming film of the Greatest's dramatic life story, and we must confess that we have viewed developments with keen interest. The prospect of this flamboyant celebrity appearing as himself has been a fascinating one to consider.

There has been ample precedent. O. J. Simpson, Bernie Casey, Jim Brown, Richard Roundtree, Chuck Connors and Joe Namath are among the athletes who have made the switch from the sports world to the movie world with varying degrees of success. And several sports figures, including the late Jackie Robinson, have appeared in their own celluloid biographies. So the step is a logical one for Muhammad Ali to make.

But how does the Champ feel about his plans to conquer the movie world? To get the inside story we set up an exclusive interview for you loyal readers of *Right On!* with the big fellow himself.

As our moment approached we wondered what our reception would be like. Would he be the same brash loud-mouth you have seen in TV interviews? Would his eyes flash and his voice rise? We have to tell you that we wondered and were pleasantly surprised. The Ali we met was quiet and considerate and happy to answer our questions.

"We've signed the contracts with Columbia Pictures and the script is finished," he informed us in a modulated voice at the outset. He obviously was looking forward to the project with pleasure.

At such close quarters we could easily see that despite his numerous bouts in the ring, this broad-shouldered man's face was still remarkably smooth and unmarked. We had to admit that his claims about being the Prettiest, as well as the Greatest, still held some validity. Many a young lady would envy him his satin skin.

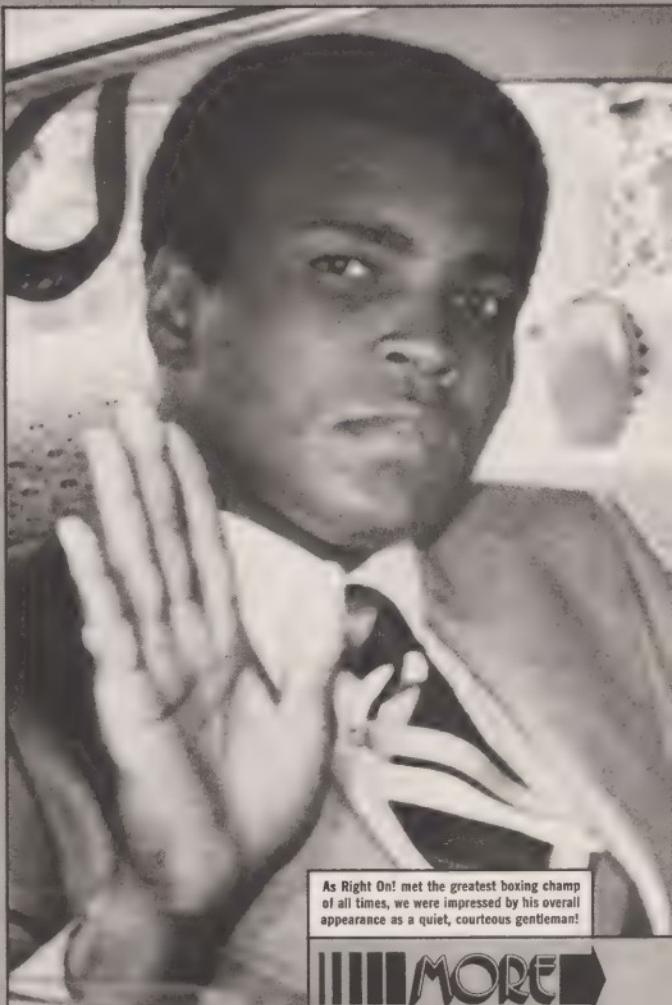
**WHO'S GONNA COACH  
THE CHAMP?**

We were eager to learn from the world's greatest talker who he

would ask to give him advice on delivering his lines before the camera. He cocked his head thoughtfully and listed for us, "Charlton Heston . . . Sidney Poitier . . . Anthony Quinn . . . Burt Lancaster."

We were about to ask if he felt that he was on a par with this quartet in acting skill, when he offered, "But I don't need too many lessons, because I'm the world's greatest actor."

What a remarkable self-appraisal, we thought. But we knew that



As *Right On!* met the greatest boxing champ of all times, we were impressed by his overall appearance as a quiet, courteous gentleman!

## CONTINUED

there were many people who would insist that Ali has been acting and putting us on for all of his adult life.

We asked what qualities he felt he possessed that would aid him in his bid for movie fame.

"I'm natural," he replied with quiet confidence. We felt obliged to agree with him. He certainly had come a long way being his natural self.

"Everything I've done has made me more famous than those movie stars we've been naming," he told us. "None of them is as famous as me."

Again we had to admit that he was probably right. There are nooks and crannies on this earth where there are people who do

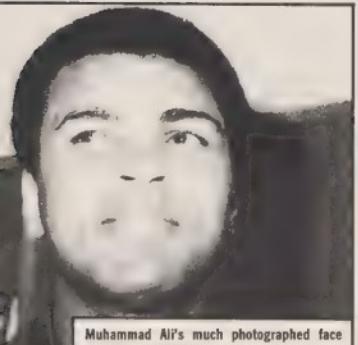
"I'm not trying to change anybody's ideas or teach 'em nothin,'" he insisted. "I just 'spect it to be good entertainment."

"Do you think yours will be an inspiring story for the young people of the world?" we asked.

"Sure," he agreed emphatically. "Sure, it will."

"What about the dialogue?" we wanted to know. "You're such a free talker, do you think you will be able to speak lines written for you by someone else?"

"It's my script," he informed us with emphasis placed on the word, "my." "It's my words. Ain't nobody can write words to go in my mouth. It wouldn't be my story. So I've written the script. I've told 'em what to do and how to do it and changed it and everything."



Muhammad Ali's much photographed face goes through many moods. Despite his many bouts, his face is still smooth and unmarked.

not know Charlton Heston or Burt Lancaster from Elizabeth Taylor, but who are quite well acquainted with the Champ.

"I'm the biggest individual in the world," he assured us. "I've got the name and whatever I've done has brought me up to this point."

We would not deny that he has earned his big reputation as a world celebrity and at this moment he is at the height of his fame.

### THE SCRIPT IS ALL MY STORY

Next, we asked what he felt viewers would see in his film.

He pondered this for a second and then said, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. People can look at it from different angles."

Would his movie preach a moral or carry a message?



His popularity will never die. His autobiography reaped in the dollars but his movie is predicted to rack up a few dollars more.

We wondered silently how the producers had welcomed all of Ali's generous assistance. But also we asked ourselves who better than the Champ would know his own unique ways of expressing himself?

We asked for verification of some of the events to be shown in the film and he was glad to comply. He indicated that there would be some surprises and some facts never revealed before.

"I'll include my refusal to go into the military service and explain in detail why I didn't go," he promised. "It'll have everything. My Olympic Gold Medal. Throwing it in the river. Why I threw it. Various shootouts I've been in."

"Shootouts?" we interjected.

"Yes. Shootouts in the southern states, driving through. This is the first time people heard all of this."

## WILL HE BE THE NEXT MALE MOVIE IDOL?

Warming to his subject, one that apparently has been on his mind for quite a while, he stated, "It's going to be a major picture. The budget is four million eight hundred thousand and it's been in the works for five years."

The Champ immediately thought better of the "major picture" classification that he had just given his film and elected to upgrade its status.

"It'll be one of the biggest movies in the history of mankind, 'cause it's going to all Moslem countries, all Christian countries, all Oriental countries, all America. It'll be in every language on the earth."

In view of all the cinematic exposure he would be getting, we asked him if he planned to capitalize on his added fame and experience and continue to act after his initial foray into the movie world.

He glanced directly at us for a moment with an expression that left little doubt that he was seriously considering the possibility.

"I have offers already," he revealed. "I have about ten different offers... big movies."

With time running out on us, we wanted to conclude our talk with an upbeat ending and so we asked, "Since you expect the film of your life to play in every corner of the globe, do you think it might provide a sort of unifying force, helping to draw the peoples of the world a little closer together?"

"I don't know if it can do that," he said with modesty. And he added, "It ain't going to do more than any other movie."

We hoped for more from the Champ, some comment a little stronger. Then just as we were shaking his huge hand and saying good-bye, he paused dramatically and stated with the trace of a twinkle in his eyes, "It won't do more than *Jaws*!"

This was the message we had wanted to bring to you *Right On!* readers. The Champ had risen to the occasion and let us know that he was facing one of the biggest challenges of his fabulous career. And he expected to do nothing less for his fans around the world than equal the most successful motion picture of all time.

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# ON THE SET WITH THE JACKSONS!!!!

THE JACKSONS  
MUST BE ONE OF THE  
HARDEST WORKING FAMILIES  
IN THE BUSINESS!  
THEIR NEW SHOW SHOULD REALLY  
BE SPECTACULAR!!!!

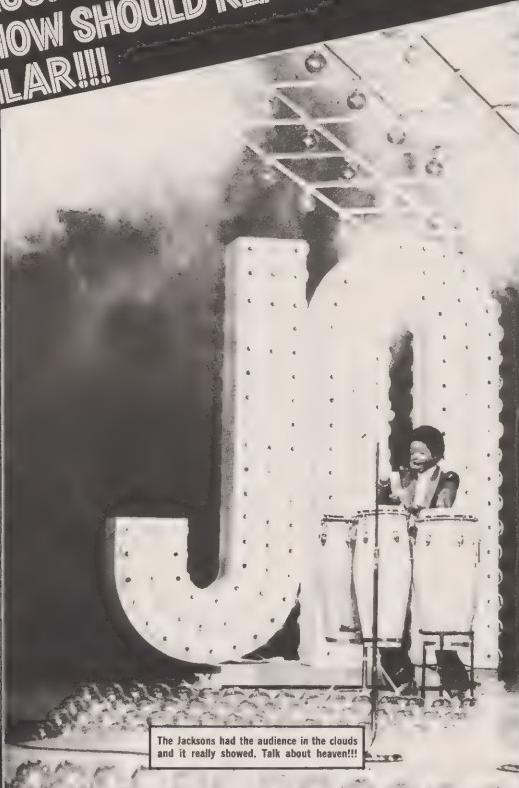
PHOTOS BY GIL GARNER  
AND KENNY LIEU

Jackson mania will never die long as the Jackson magic is present. And those lucky people who were able to sit in on the Jacksons' first taping of their new TV show will all agree that the talented singing family is just as popular as ever before.

Although the CBS taping took place in a small studio set, the energy generated was like that of a concert performance. When fans screamed, and sighed and moaned, "Dancing Machine" Marlon whirled and teased around the stage, to the delight of the audience. And when Michael reached out to grab young ladies hands, the rest of the people ran down the steps to be next!

Doing familiar numbers such as "Moving Violation" and "Life Of The Party," was simply encouragement for the fans to party with the Jacksons. Eventually there was so much screaming and shouting going on, that it seemed that the Jacksons were performing on a concert stage. This simply encouraged Randy to pound harder on the congas and for Tito to strum the guitar a bit louder. And the dancing part of the trio, Michael, Jackie, and Marlon, swirled and snived in the best Jackson style.

Unfortunately, little Janet whom many were looking forward to



The Jacksons had the audience in the clouds and it really showed. Talk about heaven!!!



Michael does his unique "tapping foot" while taking a well-earned break between numbers.



As they sing their opening tune, the platform moves out towards audience. Very dynamic!



Here the together Jackson snap, step, and sing their famous hit, "Moving Violation."



MORE

seeing a great deal of couldn't appear too much since she was still getting over the dreaded disease, chicken pox! But she was still able to dance and hum along with the rest of the family for the closing number of the show.

The Jacksons' half-hour show is the result of a lot of back breaking, or leg breaking work, we should say, on the part of the whole family. According to Joe Jackson, the children's father, several of them had even stayed up most of the night before to make sure the performance for the audience was the best product possible.

So, not only have the Jacksons got a new album out for your listening pleasure, but they will be on once a week to entertain you. So keep your eyes glued to your set and they'll be on for a long long time.



There was some speculation, but beautiful Rebbie will definitely be back on the show.

# THE JACKSONS



Standing in the middle of a million red lights,  
the Jacksons say goodnight after great show.



Even though Janet had a bad case of chicken  
pox, performed in Jacksons' opening show!



# SIZZLING SOUL SOUNDS

## DONNA SUMMER DONNA SUMMER'S "SPRING AFFAIR" MAKES PEOPLE THINK ABOUT HAVING AN AFFAIR! IT'S A SCORCHER!!!

Spicy Donna Summer is a tempestuous, teasing singer who drives men to distraction when they listen to her moaning, groaning, and sighing with passion over the radio. She has caused women to boil with jealousy and parents to shudder when they hear their children playing her music.

But no matter what her good points or faults are, one thing's certain, she's definitely one of the most sizzling, sexy singers today, and her new hit single, "Spring Affair," is definitely all Donna Summer. No, there isn't as much of that passionate lovemaking going on, but romance is in the air, and this is one tune that can definitely be heard on the air!

"Spring Affair," taken from her latest album, *Four Seasons Of Love*, is one of those tunes that seduces the ear as well as the mind. Its lyrics imply more than they suggest, the sound is more of a song than a "love machine" this time. But whether you're a Donna Summer fan or not, there's one thing you must admit: all of her albums have been gold.

Known for *Love To Love You, Love Trilogy*, and *Four Seasons of Love*, Donna's career began in 1960 at the age of 10 when she oddly enough, began idolizing gospel singer Mahalia Jackson.



Why? "She was the only singer I had heard that had the type of volume and voice control I was looking for," admitted the 27-year-old singer.

She left high school after a dispute with a teacher and then went to Munich, Germany where she joined the cast of *Hair*. She remained with *Hair* for about a year and then joined other German productions which toured Europe. When she first recorded the single "Love To Love You Baby," after releasing two gold records in Europe, it was only four minutes long. The timing was quadrupled after Neil Bogart, the president of Casablanca Recording Company heard it. It soon became one of the top played disco records in history!

Many thought she'd ooh and aah her way through a couple of fast hit records and then vanish from the record world. But on each subsequent release she showed her versatility by coming up with something that can't effectively be copied.

So even though publications have tried to outdo themselves by coming up with names for her music such as "sex rock," this lady is more than a sex queen. She's an innovative song writer who has left her mark on the pop/disco scene. Right On!

As I look back on the year 1976 and the Soul Train show, I have witnessed and been a part of many things. I have had some great times on the show and in this article I would like to share with you some of the "T" I have been a part of and some of the personalities I have been involved with.

#### THE SOUL TRAIN SHOW

One of the best shows on television. When I was first brought on the show by Don Campbell & Damita Jo Freeman, I came on there to dance. That was my main reason then and it's still my main reason now. I wasn't brought on to try to be grand, or be a TV star, or a camera hog, or think I'm better than anyone else, or to outdress anybody, etc. My main concern was to come on to dance, have a lot of fun and meet some beautiful people.

#### THE SOUL TRAIN GANG —DANCERS—FAMILY

Some of the most beautiful, finest, sexiest, hippest, baddest, nicest, cutest, group of brothers and sisters I have ever had the pleasure of dealing with. I hear a lot of negative untrue things about the gang, like we're a bunch of freaky people, we're all ego trips, we are all jealous of each other, we don't get along, we are hung up on ourselves, etc., etc. I have always considered the gang my family and just like any family group nothing's perfect. I like everybody on the show, although I have my favorites. Instead of criticizing I try to get along with everybody. Being with a together group of people this large anything can happen and it usually does. So sit back, relax and let me get out my file box of "T" and give you the news on some of the dancers, entertainers, and just plain folks that have been part of my Soul Train experience . . .

#### FILE BOX OF "T"

PAIN—PARADISE—  
PARLIAMENT —PAYNE (Freda)  
—PENNIES—PHILHARMONIC—  
PHILLIPS/JAMES PHILLIPS

#### JAMES PHILLIPS

If you want to have some fun or a lot of laughs—call up this brother. I met James through Pat Davis and when we go out together we always have a great time, and you should see some of the impressions of the Soul Train gang that James has mastered.

PIPS—PITTS—PLEASURE—  
PLUCK—POINTER (Sisters)—  
POITIER (Sidney)—PROCESS—  
22



#### PROCTOR/TYRONE PROCTOR

#### TYRONE PROCTOR

Most of my best friends are women, but Tyrone is my favorite male friend. I will never forget our first meeting. Tyrone was dancing at a popular disco, Mavericks Flat, and I said, "Boy, he can really dance good." After he finished I went over to introduce myself and before I could say "I'm Joseph Chism," Tyrone said, "You're that guy that dances on Soul Train. Then he started jumping up and down and hugging me and shaking my hand. After he calmed down he explained that he always wanted to dance on the show and he came all the way from Philadelphia to hopefully get that chance. Well, I got him on the show and the rest is history and we have remained close friends since. We have had only one big knock-down drag-out argument and that argument has made our friendship even closer.

When we rap there is no ego-tripping or someone trying to outdo another person or bragging about who's got this. There are some things we don't agree on and we may even "read" each other occasionally, true friends will do that. But no one or any group of people can break up our friendship. Tyrone is Tyrone and I respect him for it. He is my all around

# AND THAT'S THE "T"!

EVER WONDER WHAT THE SOUL TRAIN GANG IS UP TO? WANNA CATCH UP ON THE LATEST NEWS? WELL, LIL' JOE CHISM WILL BE SPILLING THE "T" EACH MONTH ABOUT THE GANG'S ACTIVITIES. CHECK IT OUT!!

favorite running buddy and I'm lucky to have a friend like him. Hey, Tyrone, remember the G.M.? (It's a secret.)

NASTY—NELSON (Ozzie & Harriet)—NEWMAN (Paul)—NIXON (Richard)—NOTORIOUS/NOTORIOUS PASADENA BUNCH  
NOTORIOUS PASADENA BUNCH

You are going to be hearing a lot about these fantastic people in my Soul Train column. I met them when Soul Train used to have auditions to decide what dancers to choose for the show. They are a unique group of people. Although they dance on the show, and dance well, they are not really into dancing. They are mostly interested in modeling, designing, acting and being fashion consultants for different performers. The reason they are called the Notorious Pasadena Bunch is because the majority of them live in Pasadena, although a few have moved to L.A. like Carmen Davis and Thyais Via's back and forth from L.A. to New York—modeling, of course. As for being Notorious, well, I don't have enough room to really tell you, besides, they would kill me (smile N.P.B.). But believe me they are Notorious. They also include Lawrence

Jennings, Allen and Renee Crowder, Darrell Speights and a few others that can fit into their unique mold.

#### **AAA—AARDVARK—**

**ABERCROMBIE/**

**VICKIE ABERCROMBIE**

#### **VICKIE ABERCROMBIE**

I met Vickie when she was going to Washington High School. She has always dressed well and gives you a variety of beautiful hairstyles and she seldom wears a wig. She is the most stylish, fashionable lady on the show and we are very close. On top of all that, she is one of the nicest girls to talk to and a very interesting person.



Vickie Abercrombie as a young Soul Trainer.



Damita Freeman still works with S.T. gingers.

**HAMILTON (George)—**

**HEPBURN (Katharine)—**

**HEREDITARY—HERTZ—HIGH—  
HILL/SHARON HILL**

#### **SHARON HILL**

She is one of the cutest dancers on the show. I remember when Sharon first came on the show. Some of the girls were going off on her because she was wearing this wig and her hair was showing from underneath. Today she is considered one of the Soul Train Glamour Girls and I love her. Sharon also did a very big favor for me and I will never forget it. She is a very good friend of mine.

**CALIFORNIA—CALL BOY—**

**CALM—CAMPBELL/DON**

**CAMPBELL & The Lockers**

#### **DON CAMPBELL**

I met popular Don Campbell at a discotheque and I also knew him during our good old high school days. I will never forget how a lot of people would laugh because he couldn't do all the in-dances as well as others. But Don didn't let it get him down. He made up his own dance and with the help of such ladies as FREDDIE MAXIE, PAT DAVIS and especially, DAMITA JO FREEMAN, he made his dance a household word. To get the Locker dancers together he went through a lot of people, but he managed to get the best, which include Slim the Robot, Funky Penguin, Toni Basil, etc. I also remember when Don and the Lockers used to perform free all over L.A. so people could see their act and again people laughed at them because they said they were not getting paid for all that dancing. Well, the "I" is the Lockers don't have to dance for free anymore. They have performed in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, New York, numerous TV shows; they have a commercial under their wing, a series, and talented Don Campbell has come up with the most influential dance since the twist. There is not one state in the Union that has people who dance that doesn't have some type of Lock dancing. Such superstars as Sandy Duncan, The Osmonds, The Jacksons, Sly Stone, and even Diana Ross have Locked on stage. The Lockers style of dress (mod striped socks, derby hats, knickers) is still worn by the teenagers of America today. There are so many Lock groups and types of Locking that spring up each month; there is the New York Lock, Harlem Lock, Spanish Lock, Double Lock, and even the Fag Lock. All of this because one brother who people tried to laugh at because he was only trying to get it together. Continued success to you, Don and the fabulous Lockers.

**CARROLL (Diahann)—CASSIDY**

**(David)—CLARK (Dick)—**

**CORNELIUS/DON CORNELIUS**

#### **DON CORNELIUS**

I have always been impressed with Don ever since I met him. Not because he is the first Black man to have his own successful syndicated TV show that he totally produces and directs. His television image and interviews for various news media have always impressed me the most. He is a friend and if ever I wanted to talk to him about a certain subject or give my advice or opinion about a certain matter, he has always laid aside a few minutes to hear what I have to say. Besides that, he projects a positive television image that has long been needed.

**FIELDS (W. C.)—FITZGERALD**

**(Ella)—FONDA (Jane)—FOXX**

**(Redd)—FRANKLIN/ARETHA**

**FRANKLIN**

#### **ARETHA FRANKLIN**

Lady Soul—When some of the Soul Train dancers were to perform with Aretha in New York, we were really nervous about meeting this soulful superstar. We even asked the gentleman who picked us up from the airport what was Aretha like? He said she was one of the sweetest persons you could ever meet and she is so down to earth. The moment we met Aretha she made us feel relaxed and it was like we had known her personally for a long time (on records we all know her well). If there was any problems with uniforms, trying to find places for entertainment, or anything else we were not sure of, Aretha and her staff were always there with the answers. I always wanted to visit New York (and I had a fantastic time) but meeting Aretha and family made the trip an unforgettable pleasurable experience . . .

**FRANKLIN (Ben)—FREAK—  
FREE—FREEMAN/DAMITA JO  
FREEMAN**

#### **DAMITA JO FREEMAN**

This is the young lady who brought me on Soul Train. I met Damita at a discotheque and she is one of my closest friends. Damita has given me more advice and informed me more than anyone else about the entertainment business. She has always wanted to help people and she is the only Soul Train dancer that when jobs come up she uses different people so that they all can get that very important experience and can see that show business isn't all glamour. In fact, the versatile talents of a lot of the dancers would have never been known if it weren't for Damita (although a few would never admit it). Damita can bring out the hidden talents in just about anybody. I remember when she was teaching me a dance routine, an hour later I replied, "Damita, I don't think I can get that step. I just can't do it." (What did I say that for?) Damita said, "Look Lil' Joe, don't tell me what you can't do—you'll learn it." Even her mother got on my case. She must have had a lot of confidence in me and you better believe I learned that routine. After that, Damita said, "See, Joe, I knew you could do it." . . . and I make it a point not to say that to her again. She went off. She has done a couple of really big favors for me that I will never forget. Before I close I would like to say that Damita used to school a lot of the dancers about things that were going on around them. Now these same people are complaining about what Damita was rapping about a long time ago. I have a lot of respect for her and I am glad I was one of the few that listened . . .



**REAGAN (Ronald)—REEVES  
(Martha/Vandellas)—RITCHIE  
FAMILY—ROGERS (Ginger)—  
ROSS/DIANA ROSS**

### DIANA ROSS

Not until Pat, Eddie, Damita, and I toured with Diana Ross did I really get a chance to really know Diana. She is really a hard worker and touring with her and the dancers was one of my most happy experiences. \*SEE SUPREMES



Thelma Davis is usually Lil' Joe's partner.

**SOMETHING SPECIAL—SONNY  
& CHER—STREISAND (Barbra)—  
SUPREMES/SUPREMES**

### SUPREMES

Anyone who knows me and knows me well is aware that I am a big Supremes fan. I never realized that by the time I finished high school I would have every album they ever made and over 10 scrapbooks filled with pictures of the group. When they made their first appearance on the Soul Train show (Jean—Mary—Lynda) everybody on Soul Train kept it a secret from me until they arrived. (They said I might get too excited.) The Supremes have lost a few followers because of group changes, but I have always enjoyed them as a group first, then as individuals. As a group they are tops. I performed with them a few times at Magic Mountain in L.A. and jumped on stage in San Francisco and did a mean bump with Scherrie Payne. In high school I never dreamed I would become friends with Scherrie Payne (so fine), Cindy Birdsong (a beauty and very nice), Diana Ross (a super lady), Mary Wilson (my all-time favorite, sexy, supreme Supreme) or any of the other talented ladies who make up Motown's most successful trio. The icing on the cake was when I got the chance to show them a few dance steps for their act. These ladies have never let me down. I will always be a fan.



Remember the classy outfits Pat Davis wore?

**T—TAYLOR (Elizabeth)—  
TEMPLE (Shirley)—  
TEMPTATIONS—TOUSSAINT/  
YOLANDA TOUSSAINT  
YOLANDA TOUSSAINT**

I met Yolanda over five years ago through a mutual friend. A few weeks after we were introduced we were a steady couple. I will always love this young lady and she will always have a special part in my heart. There was a lot of temptation around us but our relationship stayed intact. We gave each other room to be ourselves. That's why at times I would go out by myself and she would too. But when we were together that's when I enjoyed her even more. When you have a free relationship such as this, people are so quick to volunteer information and make up a lot of unnecessary rumors. But what these very tired people didn't realize is that Yolanda always knew where I went because I told her myself. That's another reason why the relationship stayed together: we tried to be as honest as possible with each other. Honesty seems to work in most cases. Yolanda is now in San Francisco doing her own thing, but the feelings I have for her haven't left. We have had some terrible attitudes and arguments, like any other couple, but the good times make you forget those sad days and Yolanda has given me much more than I could have ever expected!

**DADDY—DAFFY DUCK—  
DANCE—DARK CONTINENT—  
DAVIS/PAT DAVIS**

### PAT DAVIS

The moment I laid eyes on this girl my heart started beating fast. I have always had a secret little crush for Pat Davis. She has a nice appearance: A lot of the Soul Train girls would copy Pat's style in the early days of Soul Train and some still do. Pat Davis alone has influenced more girls all over the United States on clothing styles than any other Soul Train person. Pat proved you don't have to be tall to look good in clothes. She is fun to be with: In New York we hit some very hip discos from Greenwich Vil-

lage to downtown New York, we went to movies, rapped with some brothers and sisters in Harlem. Whether we are sitting at a restaurant talking or getting down at a disco, Pat never gets boring. She dances and, boy, does she dance. On the dance floor she is unpredictable and great. Because of her busy schedule I don't see her that often anymore, but those memories will always be there. Pat also did a very special favor and stood up for me and I will never forget it. THANKS PAT.



Don Campbell is still in the Lockers group.



Shabadoo & Fawn no longer dance on show.



Michael Henderson is still very handsome.

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## TAVARES FAX SHEETS (ALL THE VITAL STATISTICS!!!)

### Ralph Tavares

Age: 30 Height: 5'8"  
Weight: 141  
Place of birth: Waterbury, Conn.  
Marital status: single  
Hobbies: scuba diving, golf,  
sky diving, football  
Zodiac sign: Sagittarius



### Feliciano (Butch) Tavares

Age: 26 Height: 5'9"  
Weight: 130  
Place of birth: New Bedford, Mass.  
Marital status: single  
Hobbies: martial arts, golf  
Instruments: piano, kalimba,  
harmonica, guitar  
Zodiac sign: Libra



### Perry (Tiny) Tavares

Age: 25 Height: 5'10"  
Weight: 137  
Place of birth: New Bedford, Mass.  
Marital status: married  
Hobbies: tennis, golf, baseball,  
and basketball  
Instruments: timbale, drums,  
congas  
Zodiac sign: Libra



### Antone (Chubby) Tavares

Age: 28 Height: 5'8½"  
Weight: 137  
Place of birth: Providence, R.I.  
Marital status: married  
Hobbies: golf, tinkering with  
antique cars  
Instruments: guitar, piano,  
drums  
Zodiac sign: Gemini



### Arthur (Pooch) Tavares

Age: 29 Height: 5'9"  
Weight: 155  
Place of birth: Providence, R.I.  
Marital status: single  
Hobbies: golf, tennis, baseball,  
football and basketball  
Instruments: congas and drums  
Zodiac sign: Scorpio



"Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel" is their greatest hit!



This is one group who won't forsake the Black audience!





# HOW WISE ARE YOUR EATING HABITS?

TEST  
YOURSELF  
AND SEE!



It's bulge-making time again with so many holidays coming up. Are you able to resist temptation or do you "get down" at the dinner table? Take this test...and see!!!

BY SHELL SLATON

1. Yesterday you gorged yourself on that special holiday meal. Today you:
  - a. Have another feast on the leftovers.
  - b. Eat regular meals using the portions you're used to taking.
  - c. Eat much less than is normal for you at mealtime.
2. It's two hours before you have to go to that dinner party tonight. Your family is sitting down to dinner now. You decide to:
  - a. Eat with them and eat again at the party.
  - b. Eat now, skipping the starches and eat again at the party.
  - c. Skip eating now, and have dinner at the party.
3. You're baking holiday cookies for your friends and family. There's quite a bit of batter left in the bowl. You:
  - a. Get a spoon gobble it up.
  - b. Share the batter with a friend or brother/sister.
  - c. Cover it up and put it in the refrigerator 'till you make another batch.
4. It's the fifth day of your diet and you've already lost two pounds. As you sit down to dinner at a relative's house, they act hurt because there's not very much on your plate. To make them feel better you:
  - a. Finish what you're eating and then take a second helping.

- b. Go back and put a little more food on your plate.  
 c. Explain that the food is delicious but you can't afford to go off your diet.
- 5. That special someone is home for the holiday and has taken you to your favorite restaurant. He tells you to order anything you like. You decide to:**
- Splurge just this once and order a rich tasty meal and dessert.
  - Order a light meal and a heavy dessert.
  - Order something light like omelettes or a salad, and for dessert you drink tea or coffee and gaze into his/her eyes.
- 6. It's your turn to wash dishes and you have to put the food away. It's still warm and as you cover it you:**
- Snack a little from each dish as you put it in the refrigerator, finishing off the small leftovers.
  - Take a tablespoon of this and a tablespoon of that.
  - Resist the urge and put it away without tasting it.
- 7. You've been cool so far and have been eating reasonable meals. But tonight your stomach is growling while you're trying to sleep, and doesn't seem like it's going to stop. To fix it you:**
- Eat some turkey dressing or sweet potato pie left in the kitchen.
  - Eat an apple.
  - Drink a glass of milk, water, or juice.
- 8. You are down to the size you'd like to be and someone close to you comments that you're too skinny for their taste. You respond by:**
- Deciding to eat more fattening things, and forget about watching your weight.
  - Gain a few pounds until they are satisfied with your weight.
  - Tell him/her that you like your size and that they'll have to get used to it.
- 9. You will power deserted you and the holiday appetite succeeded in attacking your waistline. Now you're five pounds overweight and you want to lose at least four pounds by the time your friend's disco set happens in two weeks. If you don't you won't be able to fit into your best looking outfit. You:**
- Eat a lot of your favorite foods this week, to get them out of your system then go on an extreme, eating-almost-nothing diet.
  - Go on a diet seven days before the set, and dance, bicycle (plus any other regular exercise) as much as you can.
  - Go on a diet fourteen days before and exercise every day.
- 10. You're at a party and it hasn't started jumping yet. It's really boring at this point so you:**
- Stand by the potato chip bowl and munch until the party gets going.
  - Fix a plate of hors d'oeuvres and eat them very slowly.
  - Get a glass of punch and strike up a conversation with a friendly looking person.
- 11. Tonight you're sitting in the movie theatre and your date offers to buy you something to eat or drink. You say yes, "I'd like some":**
- "Buttered popcorn, chocolate candy and a soda."
  - "Soda!" And when your date gets back you munch out of his/her popcorn box.
  - "Low-cal soda, please."
- 12. You've been extra active lately and have lost too much weight. You don't like yourself at this size and you try to gain the weight back by:**
- Gorging yourself with greasy, gooey foods, everyday.
  - Eating a second helping at every meal.
  - Slowly increasing your portions at meal time 'till
- you reach the desired weight.
- 13. Something is cooking in the kitchen and it smells irresistibly good. When this happens you usually:**
- Sneak a nice portion of whatever's smelling good and then eat it again when it's done.
  - Take a little taste and then an even bigger taste when it's served.
  - Wait until it's finished cooking and then have some.
- 14. Someone has given you a box of chocolate candy as a gift. It's the third box of chocolate candy you've received and you just finished eating the other two. You appreciate the gift and you:**
- Eat it up too.
  - Eat half and give the rest to your friends.
  - Give the whole box to a friend, or a member of your family, once the giftbearer has left.
- 15. Sometimes you're so busy that you skip breakfast lunch and dinner, grabbing only a candy bar, cupcake, or apple in between. This happens to you:**
- All the time.
  - Sometimes.
  - Never.
- 16. When you wake up in the morning, that delicious dessert is still in the refrigerator. It looks very tempting and you:**
- Eat it for breakfast.
  - Eat it for breakfast along with orange juice.
  - Save it for later in the day.
- 17. No one will be able to cook dinner for you tonight because they have other plans. So you just:**
- Skip dinner.
  - Go to a hamburger stand and buy a malt and fries.
  - Fix a well-balanced meal for yourself.
- 18. You're studying for an exam and you're under a lot of pressure because it counts for half of your grade. Two days before the test, it makes you:**
- Eat more than usual.
  - Eat less than usual.
  - No difference. Your eating pattern stays the same.
- 19. You have a favorite fattening food and you eat it:**
- For breakfast, lunch and dinner at least twice a week.
  - For a snack everyday.
  - Once or twice a week.
- 20. Everyone is at the table for the holiday dinner. You finish your plate before everyone else and your stomach is full. They look like they'll be eating for at least twenty more minutes. You:**
- Go back, fill up your plate and eat until they're finished.
  - Take up your dessert or a second helping of something.
  - Stop eating, and just talk with them until they're finished.

### ANALYSIS

The number next to each answer is the number of points you receive. Total up your score and see where you fit in:

60-50—if you truthfully follow what you know, you're the type of person who gets through the holidays and the whole year with a healthy stomach that's in good shape. Your understanding of the proper eating habits will save you from unwanted calories and doctor bills. Eat On!

49-32—you're a sensitive person and tend to let holidays and tension affect your eating habits. But you usually get it together in time, before things get out of hand. With just a little more concentration you can be in control of those tempting situations. Try it, you'll like it.

20-31—it's time for you to make a big change in your eating habits. Work on eating regular, well-balanced meals and adjusting to the holiday situations. Watch out for well-meaning relatives and friends who try to make your will-power weak. Although it may be hard at first, you'll find that it gets easier with time. Good luck!

# "YOU'RE THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME!!!"



Bo Kirkland and Ruth Davis are like sunshine and rainbows. Their union on their latest Claridge album is soothing and pleasing!!!

BY CYNTHIA HORNER

When you first look at them, they seem like such an unlikely combination: he's over six feet and has a booming, deep voice, she's slightly over five feet, very feminine looking, and has one of the most melodic-sounding voices ever heard. And they've got a new album out simply titled *Bo and Ruth*.

Bo Kirkland and Ruth Davis were both products of very large families and influenced by gospel music. Their show business careers both started once they finished school, but that's where their similarities end.

When asked how he got interested in show business Bo (Michael James Kirkland is his real name) joked, "It was a way to get out of washing dishes as a kid. After I was 12, I lost all interest in singing because I liked baseball, football, and girls," laughed the Yazoo, Mississippi born 30 year old man.

He became interested in music again once he was in college and when his brother Bob started his own record label, the brothers were mildly successful in releasing four singles and a couple of albums. It wasn't until he signed with the Claridge label in 1975, however, that he had a single, "Grandfather Clock," that it seemed that he really might be successful.

This Libran, born October 11, says of himself, "I'm the pinnacle which holds up the scales—because I don't swing." It's difficult to get this quiet and unassuming (in his own words) to make a serious statement; it's always very prophetic and humorous. As he sees it, "If you can make one laugh, it's the greatest gift in the world," he explained with dancing eyes.

Michael James, the youngest of six children, says one of the rea-

# BO AND RUTH ARE LIKE COFFEE AND CREAM. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THEM IS THAT THEY'RE A PERFECT TEAM!!!



Bo said he officially got involved in music when he attended a party and someone bet that he could sing. He tried it and liked it!

sons why he likes music is the fact that it's unparalleled by any other form of art. He added that a picture has its limits to what it really means, but, "Music is the ultimate natural high. A blind person can experience music."

Bo, who grew up in Los Angeles, California, said that he and his singing partner Ruth have sometimes been compared to the late Tammi Terrell and Marvin Gaye duo. But they hope people will look beyond that comparison and see them both for what they really are.

## RUTH WON A TALENT CONTEST

Ruth Davis has been on the music scene since 1969 when she won "Soul Search," a yearly talent contest held by Los Angeles radio station KGFJ. Beautiful, bubbly Ruth is the perfect foil for rakish, teasing Bo who tries to get the best of her every time. She's so cool and serene that he never really manages it. But he's working on it.

Bo says of his talented partner, "Ruth is one of the best things that has ever happened to me. Working with Ruth notes have come out of my mouth that I never knew I could utter. Songs we've sung depict man and woman's relationship in the world. In fact, our whole album is jampacked with experiences set to music."

Although her future seems set, especially with this current music union with Bo, Ruth hasn't considered herself having made it yet. With her Biblical upbringing and natural goodheartedness ingrained in her soul it is easy to see why she enjoys working with promising young singers. "I've got students whom I counsel. I give them a lot of voice therapy. Soul music singers need to exercise because when you try to approach certain notes,

there are times when you can't handle them.

"Singers often sing wrong and approach songs wrong. For instance, in school you learn a certain way. Lots try to get a low, gutsy sound. You can harm your vocal chords that way, it's called 'vocal suicide,'" she explained seriously.

Another reason why she finds it so rewarding to share her knowledge with others is that, "It irks me when entertainers are a negative influence."

Ruth was raised in Brushyland, Arkansas, in the heart of the Bible Belt. One of 15 children, she first learned about music sitting on her grandpa's knee once he was too old to help around the farm and she was too young. "He was Bojangles personified; he played an assortment of instruments, most of them handmade, like a wall guitar or a washboard fiddle. He taught me to sing and he taught me a love for music that I will never lose," Ruth remembered.

## THEY SYMBOLIZE HONESTY AND REALISM

This earthy songstress who loves jigsaw puzzles, says she always sang in the church choir which gave her the inspiration to venture into the music business. Starting out was a bit rough for her since she no longer had the encouragement from her grandfather to make her go ahead. But once she met Bo and Bob Kirkland, she once again had the prodding to do anything she wanted.

With Bo working right alongside her for the time being, it's as if they were meant to be. "Bo and I symbolize honesty and realism," she said. "It's a much better feeling than being in a room full of people and when the lights go out, you're all alone," she stated.

"And it takes a good coach or

producer," Bo went on to say, "to get the best out of us. A good producer is like a good dentist. He extracts the best and then it doesn't hurt so bad," he finished frankly.

And when you hear the beautiful music this combination makes, you will agree...it doesn't hurt your ears at all to listen to them. Not one bit!



This glamorous but sensitive Pisces said her grandfather showed her the show biz ropes: soft shoe, voice, etc. "He was such a help."



Although very glamorous and beautiful, this young lady spends most of her free time aiding other young people interested in careers.

# SHORT

# TAKES



## THE ORIGINALS

"What a difference a hit makes," is a feeling many artists share when their career is on the upswing, but Freddie Gorman of the Originals is expressing

this sentiment loudly with the group's hit single "Down To Love Town" kicking up around the country.

Their current hit, a zesty up-tempo number is taken from their album, *Communique*, which also contains some spicy numbers, according to Motown representatives. In fact, this tune has been hitting the tops of disco charts all over recently which shows that older groups can compete very successfully with the new groups which capitalize on the current disco craze.

"Down To Love Town" is really the Originals' first major hit since

the days when they were known for tunes like "Baby, I'm For Real," and "The Bells," which are just a couple of songs they've done in their eleven-year history.

Just who are the Originals? They are Freddie Gorman, Hank Dixon, Walter Gaines, and Ty Hunter. They've backed a number of artists including Marvin Gaye and Diana Ross. But with their new album out, the group won't be backing anybody else for awhile, they'll be too busy touring themselves!

So as you can see, this male quartet has been patiently waiting its turn and now it's here. Nice guys can't finish last!



## LTD

LTD is a new group, right? Wrong. LTD has been recording tunes with A&M records for three and a half years! Unless you were lucky enough to see them in concert two years ago with the Average White Band, the Isley Brothers, the O'Jays and K.C. and the Sunshine Band, you probably

never even heard of LTD before their latest hit record, "Love Ballad."

Things started happening for LTD when they were picked to be the latest project of the innovative producers Larry and Fonce Mizell (the two brothers who recorded Donald Byrd, the Blackbirds and Bobbi Humphrey). When they mixed their production skills with the musical talent of these ten mu-

sicians a really together album was born called "Love To The World."

Billy Osborne, one of LTD's two lead singers explains that, "By Love To the World we mean have fun, make love." And love seems to be what LTD's all about. It's even found in their name which stands for Love, Togetherness and Devotion.

Billy's brother Jeff Osborne is the other singer, and he also plays drums. He and his brother have been making music together for the last seven years. Billy, who plays several instruments, used to be the musical director for the Friends of Distinction. Jeffrey played drums with a number of well-known musical artists, one being Smokey Robinson.

The rest of the group includes Henry Davis on bass; Johnny McGee on guitar; Jimmy Davis who alternates among five keyboard instruments; Carle Vickers on trumpet, flute piccolo and soprano sax; Lorenzo Carnegie on saxes; Jake Riley, trombone and Abraham Miller on tenor sax.



## DEBORAH ALLEN

Her heart-shaped face was set off by the perfect ballerina's knot she happened to have her hair pulled up in at the time of the interview giving her a classic and sophisticated look. Would you believe this is the same person who played J.J.'s junkie thieving girlfriend in one of the "Good Times" episodes over a year ago?

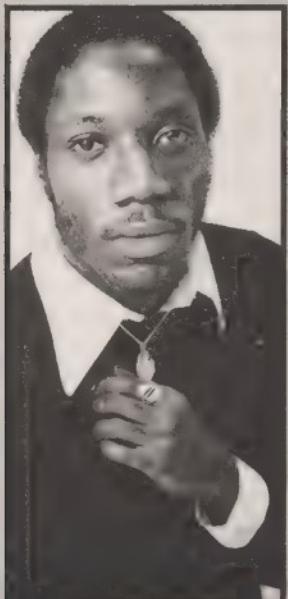
Actress Deborah Allen who is as brilliant as she is diverse (she graduated cum laude from Howard University), has been photographed a tremendous amount in her short show business career. If you noticed one of the photos used in last month's *Right On!*, you saw her partying with Michael Jackson, both of whom love dancing. In fact, many of you probably thought that was his girlfriend, but rest easy, she's a newly married lady!

She got her love for dancing having studied with the Houston Ballet Foundation and Ballet Nacional de Mexico, just to name a few of the schools she attended.

If you keep up with commercials, you might have seen her in the 15 she's made, including a Pampers diaper commercial. Theatrical buffs recall her from the original company of *Raisin* and in George Faison's dance company. And if you like TV specials, you may have caught her recently starring in the innovative "Three Girls Three" show.

This Houston-born miss who stands 5'2" is the daughter of a woman who was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in the 1950's. Exposed to as much culture as possible at an early age, Deborah and her brother and sister are all involved in some aspect of show business.

Her advice for people interested in the business is, "Have the audacity to go up to stars and ask them questions, but you must do it with style, you can't offend them." She also advises people to do a lot of hustling. She does, even though she's had some tremendous breaks because she feels she's just at the beginning of her career!



## DEWAYNE JESSIE

If you saw *Sparkle*, *Bingo Long Travelling All-Stars*, or *Car Wash*, you saw DeWayne Jessie. His most memorable role was in *Bingo Long* where he sensitively portrayed a silent (mute) brother named Rainbow who was the financial manager for the All-Stars. Later in the movie, when he gained back the use of his vocal chords, many moviegoers clapped like he had defeated a villain.

This talented 25-year-old actor was born in Los Angeles, California and caught the show biz itch from his brother, O.B. who had been in the business for a number of years. In high school he joined an acting workshop and continued acting on the side while he pursued a variety of careers: psychiatry, business law, and computer programming.

Then one day he said to himself, "Wait a minute, why not be serious and do it (acting) for real?"

That's when things started jumping for him. His first movie, *Halls of Anger* brought him a variety of TV show appearances on "Bill Cosby," "Love, American Style," "Medical Center," "Police Story," as well as the "Scott Joplin King of Ragtime" TV special. His list of movie credits is just as long.

Of these two mediums he says, "I like movies better than TV because movies give you a chance to really get into the character. It's like TV is a skeleton and movies are the body."

While he talks, he moves around a little, like a car engine ready for take off. With all that energy you'd think he was into sports. But he's not. He plays some tennis though, "because it's a mind thing."

In his spare time he enjoys reading poetry and scriptwriting. He'd eventually like to get into directing. Right now, however, he's concentrating on "perfecting my craft." And since he's one of the best, that means he'll be even better!

JOIN THE  
**P-FUNK**  
TOUR! IT'S A BLAST!  
THE P-FUNK TOUR IS  
FANTASTICALLY CRAZY.  
IT'S A NEW CONCEPT  
AND IT'S CATCHING ON LIKE  
**WILDFIRE! DIG IT!!!**

BY CYNTHIA HORNER

hat's Funk? According to Parliament, Funk is "Fun" with a "K." And that's exactly what the Parliament/Funkadelic P-Funk Tour is all about.

A new stage setup has been created for Parliament at over the cost of \$275,000 as the first step in the Parliament/Funkadelic Earth Tour 1976-77 A.D. It's not just music. It's a funk opera based on the idea of extra-terrestrial beings (maggots) coming to earth in search of the funk.

This new P-Funk opera is complete in three acts, beginning with the "Mothership Connection" in which Dr. Funkenstein who is overlord George Clinton, comes to earth to see what the earth-man had done with the gift of pure funk. Acts two and three deal with what happens when Dr. Funkenstein finds out that man either hasn't got the funk, or doesn't know how to use it!

Does it sound crazy? It makes plenty of sense when you see it on stage 'cause George Clinton is a mastermind creator but you can't fully appreciate it 'til you see it for yourself like *Right On!* did when flown to New Orleans, Louisiana to witness the landing of the mothership into the Municipal Auditorium.

The lavish P-Funk Stage setup, designed by Jules Fischer, takes over 15 hours to set up. There are at least 100 people for the show, 75 who tour, and 22 additional stage hands hired in each city it arrives in. You'll know it's the P-Funk Tour rolling down the street if you see four 45-foot semi trucks, three busses and a Winnebago van.

#### SCHIZOPHRENIC ROCK

The P-Funk setup is very colorful and elaborate, sparkling up Parliament's act which was beginning to drag a bit even though the *Mothership Connection* album recently turned platinum. The songs on the new album *Clones of Dr. Funkenstein* are faster tempo, which contributes greatly to the mood of the show.

Exactly what is Parliament/Funkadelic, and how does everything relate? Well, the Parliament/Funkadelic thang is not just the typical soul or rock band, it's funk rock. Clinton has blended his schizophrenic nature into these two groups, Funkadelic which serves primarily as the instrumental part of the act,

and Parliament which does most of the vocals. They record at different companies (Warner Brothers and Casablanca) but join forces in concert.

Confusing? You're supposed to be confused. George Clinton has a masterplan which will be revealed little by little in each of his albums. You may not know what he's talking about right now, but someday, you will.

#### WHAT'S THE FUNK ABOUT?

The first act of Parliament's Funk opera, "The Night of the Thumposorus Peoples," deals with prehistoric man and his gift from the gods (Dr. Funkenstein): the secrets of the universe, P-Funk. The misuse of this gift causes Dr. Funkenstein to repossess it. The secrets, along with an invasion force of clones led by Starchild (remember the song?) are placed into pyramids until man is ready to take over

## P-Funk

Act two begins with Dr. Funkenstein discovering Supergroovalistic prosifunstication, the method by which P-Funk can be drawn out of man's memory banks, forcing him to "give up the funk" whether he wants to or not.

In act three, "The Clones of Dr. Frankenstein," has the good doctor returning to the mother ship to reawaken the clones, realizing his

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

Are you feeling the funk? Wait till you hear the "P-Funk" number this group does. Even when they've finished the number, they're still feelin' it, they admitted later!!!



George Clinton got down with his music which ranges from African to R&B to space-odyssey funk. If you couldn't feel it, he told the audience to get up and go back home. But the crowd was wild and after that, no one sat still.



The stage setup was over \$275,000 but it's worth every cent. It's an unbelievable thing.



Bootsy and the Rubberband were bad! Casper, as his alter-ego excited fans when "Stretchin' Out," came on. Can you dig him?



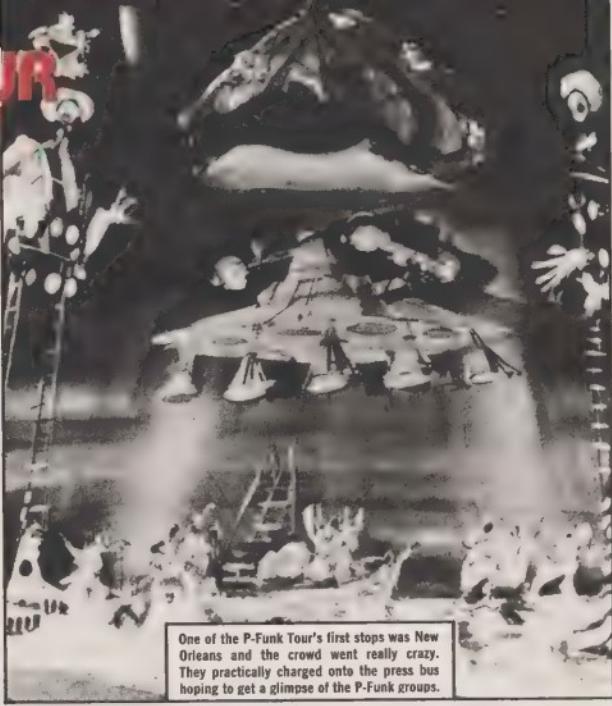
George Clinton is rapidly becoming an idol. The record company calls him a "genius!!!!"



# P-FUNK TOUR

**CONTINUED** dream of saving the dying world of funklessness.

The finale brings the entire cast out on stage for a resounding "Give Up The Funk" chorus and from then on they're in a state of ecstasy known as P-Funk heaven. And the message George Clinton leaves manking is, "Funk is it's own reward!"



One of the P-Funk Tour's first stops was New Orleans and the crowd went really crazy. They practically charged onto the press bus hoping to get a glimpse of the P-Funk groups.

# MYSTERY CONTEST ENDS!!!



WHO IS HE?  
WHAT  
GROUP  
IS HE IN?

WELL, IT'S OVER NOW! 66 PEOPLE WERE THE HAPPY RECIPIENTS OF ALBUMS DONATED BY THE FIRM HECHT, HARMAN, AND VUCAS! IF YOU DIDN'T WIN THIS CONTEST, DON'T WORRY. THERE WILL BE OTHERS THAT YOU CAN ENTER!

—THE EDITOR

**ANSWER:**

**BILLY HENDERSON OF THE SPINNERS**



# ALL THE STARS

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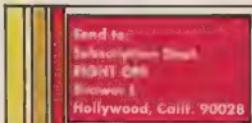
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# MYSTERY QUIZ!!!

DO YOU KNOW WHO THESE TWO BOYS ARE?  
IF YOU GUESS CORRECTLY, THEN YOU'RE VERY OBSERVANT!  
IF YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW, SEE PAGE 79!!!

# FABULOUS CONTEST! DATE THE BROTHERS JOHNSON (GEORGE, THAT IS!)



Are you hip to the Brothers Johnson? One is a married man. But look out for the number one brother, 23 year old George, 'cause he's still "free and single" and available to you when you fly to California for a whole weekend if you're the lucky winner of the "WIN A DATE WITH GEORGE JOHNSON CONTEST"!

## CONTEST RULES

Contestants must be at least 16 years old by March 1, 1977 in order to enter. There is no age limit. Please submit a photo and explain in 50 words or less why you think George should remain "free and single." Winners will be selected by the Brothers Johnson, Right On! Magazine Staff, Beverly Giddens (Brothers Johnson Fan Club President), and Ed Eckstine (Personal Manager).

## ENTER TODAY

Winner will receive free record albums and other prizes which will be announced in future issues. Contest Deadline is March 1, 1977.

VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW

Name _____
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Date of Birth _____
Address _____
City & State _____
Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
(Area Code) _____
Hobbies/Interests _____
Signature of Parent or Guardian if Under 18 _____

Send your entries to:  
Win A Date Contest/7060 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 800/Hollywood, Ca. 90028



JIM KELLY  
IN ACTION!!

Right On!  
COLOR BONUS!

**WHEN  
YOU SIT IN ON A  
PHOTO SESSION  
WITH JIM,  
STRANGE THINGS  
ARE BOUND  
TO HAPPEN  
AS YOU'LL SEE!**

BY SHELL SLATON  
PHOTOS BY KENNY LIEU

Jim Kelly steps into the photographer's studio, goes directly to the mirror and begins patting his afro. "Here I am. The greatest celebrity tennis player in the U.S." It sounds like an announcement. Then he glances over his shoulder and orders, "Put this down, I just beat Bill Cosby in the final of the Tennis Celebrity Championship and received the Best Tennis Player Award."

Egotistical? No. Just proud. He doesn't speak of himself in the arrogant, "I'm so cool," way that Fred Williamson does. Rather, he volunteers the information as if he's really glad he did it and you're someone he's sharing his happiness with.

He picks up his \$230 graphite tennis racquet and goes through several tennis positions, concentrating on the camera as if it were the ball. He moves quick, and precise, showing no signs of the sprained ankle he once received while playing tennis. After a few minutes he gets hot and pulls his shirt off, revealing his slim, muscular physique built by eight karate movies and daily, early morning jogging.

In fact, he claims he was jogging in Chicago when he was kidnapped by some people for several weeks, causing the press to speculate over his disappearance, a couple of years ago. Yet, the way his face is trying not to laugh as he tells you, "No, really. It's true, I'm not kidding."



Tennis anyone? Don't be deceived by his friendly looks, he's a devil of a tennis pro.

keeps you from believing him.

There are occasionally reports of 26-year-old Jim Kelly being mobbed by a crowd of female fans. But a kidnapping?

"Why didn't you tell the press this before?" (His original explanation for the disappearance was that he'd taken a quiet vacation to escape the pressures, and relax for a while.)

"I didn't mention this before because my kidnappers made me promise not to tell."

He's now wearing a green shirt with orange and yellow flowers and is giving the camera alluring looks. While he's peering seductively into the lens, he says that he's starved and asks for the name of a good place to eat that's nearby. When he hears the suggestion of a pancake house he looks aghast.

"No, I can't go there! I ate so many pancakes when I was little that I couldn't eat another pancake if I wanted to. Never." He laughs and then explains, "I'm very particular about what I eat. I don't even like hot spicy food. I prefer to eat food as natural as possible."

As he gives more debonair expressions to the camera, the photographer finishes shooting the roll of film and then stops to change. Jim steps off the paper backdrop and lets out a sigh, "Phew!" He answers your questioning look with a short confession. "I'm actually a shy person."

It's an unusual revelation to hear from someone who makes as many movies and travels as much as he does. His films often take him all over the world. He's been to Hong Kong, the Bahamas, the Canary Islands off the coast of Africa, and just returned from Kingston, Jamaica.

Back home in Los Angeles, to the disappointment of many karate students, Kelly has closed down his karate school. "I did it because I want to give 100% of my time to the movie industry." This is evident, because after completing his latest movie, *Black Samurai*, he immediately began producing another movie called *Blazing Dragon*. When asked what he does in his spare time, he says, "Oh, I fool around." And his soft, low voice combined with the mischievous smile lets you know that he's really not as shy as he says he is.



A "HOT LINE!"

# THE **SYLVERS!!!**

RightOn!  
**COLOR BONUS!**

# ON THE ROAD WITH THE SYLVERS FAMILY— WHAT IT'S REALLY LIKE!!!

IN CELESTINE WILSON

## 24 HOURS WITH THE SYLVERS IS FUN, CRAZY, AND VERY ENJOYABLE! SHARE IT WITH THEM!!!

The Sylvers were happy and surprised to receive two plaques from Right On! for Top Group 1976, and Best Song, "Boogie Fever."



PHOTOS BY KENNY LIEU

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to spend about 24 hours with one of the most famous young singing groups in the world? Well, the *Right On!* editor recently had that opportunity when she accompanied the Sylvers family on a gig to Fresno, California, near the San Francisco area.

When you plan to travel by bus, you have to get up awfully early so departure time was set for 5:30 a.m. from the Sylvers' home in Palos Verdes, California. Many of you may wonder how *anyone* can function that early in the morning but the Sylvers are used to that sort of thing nowadays.

Mrs. Shirley Sylvers greeted visitors to the door with a friendly smile, and practically a coffee pot in one hand and a frying pan in the other. That is to say, she was trying to rustle up some breakfast and fill everyone with a hot beverage to start off the trip!

The trip started off with the Sylvers hurriedly running about the house getting their clothes and belongings together. A suitcase stuffed with all the uniforms and an iron lay on the floor awaiting their packing into the Greyhound bus compartment. Finally, the six members of the band appeared, so the group, body guard, road manager, and press members hopped aboard.

Mrs. Sylvers has seen her children off on hundreds of trips but she never fails to wish them luck. "Have a good concert," she urged as she gave Foster a goodbye kiss. Clutching his football, the 14-year-

**CONTINUED**

old teen star scrambled onto the bus while his mother returned to the rest of her household duties.

Once on the bus, most of the Sylvers party was out like a light. As usual, they hadn't gotten a whole lot of sleep the night before and having traveled so much, they've become quite adept at catching shut-eye in all kinds of positions, on all kinds of transportation. Olympia, Pat, and Angela kept their hair in rollers with scarves around them, and as they were wearing comfortable clothing like jeans, they relaxed and curled up as the bus rolled off.

The male Sylvers were more active however, or at least Edmund, Ricky, and Foster remained

**CONCERT SHOTS  
BY PETER VISER**

**PATRICIA****OLYMPIA****LEON****EDMUND****JAMES****RICKY**

awake! Ricky spent most of his time up front rocking back and forth in his seat listening to tunes from a tape player and so did Foster. In fact, Foster, always active, was up and down, wandering, down the aisle of the bus in excitement, sometimes being shushed by an older brother who thought he was too noisy.

### **THE OLDER FELLAS "CRASHED!"**

Big Lee appropriated the back seat for himself and stretched out comfortably where he remained the whole trip. Pat sat up thoughtfully staring into space, while James slept, waking only now and then to brush away buzzing flies that tickled his nose. Angie talked to whoever happened to be awake in her section of the bus.

Later that morning, as the destination grew near, Foster began to get hungry and started ransacking the contents of the food supply. Then with the manner of an airline steward, he walked up and down the bus aisle thoughtfully asking others if they were hungry or thirsty. As they munched hungrily on their mother's fried chicken and drank punch or water from their individual water jugs which they carry wherever they travel, the Sylvers began to perk up, and from then on, any unsuspecting person was fair game for the playful family.

If you weren't careful, you were hit with flying objects which were being thrown around the bus in jest. So eventually, everyone was awake and joining in the fun. You'd never believe they were the same family who performs in such a show business-like way up on stage. Jokes were exchanged and the noise volume grew. In fact, they were just like any other average family.

Once Fresno was reached, the bus headed toward the county fair where the Sylvers were to perform that day at five and then again at eight. Since it wasn't even noon yet, the instruments were unloaded, dressing rooms found, and then road manager/cousin Terrel Ray ushered the youngest three, Angela, Pat, and Foster off for their three hours of schooling. There was a little bit of groaning but the Sylvers know how important it is to take

care of business, so the three of them went off to study very cheerfully while the other five simply enjoyed spending some time out of doors.

### LOVE AUTOGRAPH SEEKERS!

As the Sylvers family is a very recognizable group, it was no surprise to them when some of the school children who were taking a field trip to the fair, shyly came up and asked for autographs. Even fair workers who were used to different groups appearing every day couldn't resist hanging around the area with great interest.

Autographs were signed with care and the Sylvers graciously answered questions and carried on conversations with fans, never seeming to get tired of discussing the same subjects or writing their names on fair posters. As a mother herself, Olympia took a maternal interest in her share of fans and was rewarded by adoring looks as she asked each person, "What is your name, baby?" so that the messages would be more personal.

As the day progressed (and Angie, Pat, and Foster remained in the "school room" doing homework) the older fellas who didn't always share Olympia's contentment for peace and quiet in the warm sun, went off to play football and wander around the fair grounds. As it was still early in the day, they were able to walk around freely with few people knowing that they were entertainers.

Once the three school-age Sylvers emerged from the dressing room which served as "class," Foster immediately wanted to join in a football game. This activity was cut short by a woman who followed them wherever they played and tried to prevent them from playing on the grass. They stopped playing altogether without too much fuss rather than cause a big scene, so several of them went over to the stage area to rap with fans and practice their instruments.

Foster spent the rest of his day signing autographs and talking to fans and posing for a few pictures, although a careful eye was kept

on him the whole time since he could easily get injured by over eager young ladies. Eventually he joined his brothers and Pat on stage where they moved to their respective instruments and jammed for a while.

True lovers of show business, the Sylvers' excitement mounted as the time for the first show drew near. You could hear the sounds of feet tapping in the men's dressing room and you knew that Leon, James, Edmund, Ricky, and Foster were going over some of their steps as they waited to go on stage. In the ladies' dressing room, Olympia's hair which had previously been bundled up in rollers, was suddenly allowed to tumble free, attractively about her shoulders. Pat and Angie also spent a lot of time before the mirror fixing themselves up.

**FOR THE INSIDE SCOOP  
ON WHAT HAPPENED  
DURING THE CONCERT,  
SEE PART II NEXT MONTH!  
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# ask DIANNE?

Since so many of our RIGHT ON! readers have written in asking us to advise them in solving their personal problems — we have started an ASK DIANNE column as a service to our readers. Drop us a line (in 40 words or less) telling us what your problem is — whether it's how to refuse a date — boy/girl relationships — what to do on a first date — whatever you may have difficulty getting answers to, and we'll try to help. This is just RIGHT ON!'s way of saying we care. Send all questions to ASK DIANNE — 7060 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 800 — Hollywood, Calif. 90028

## HIT AND MISS ROMANCE IS FAILING!

Dear Dianne:

I'm young and very much in love!!! I'm a female, 15 years old, and I go with an 18 year old. He says he loves me and I love him too but he wants to have sexual intercourse with me and I'm afraid. I see him like every one or two months and he hardly ever calls.

What am I to do? I also found out that he was messing around with some other girls and I am the one who loves him. We had planned to get married some day because he said that I was the kind of person he was looking for.

But at the rate we are going now, I don't know what is going down. He tells his friends everything that has happened between us. I need some advice soon! I love him and I don't want to lose him. Help!  
*Losing a Lover*

Dear *Losing a Lover*:

*Even though your boyfriend talks of marriage, the fact that he doesn't call, only sees you once every two months and plays around with other girls, shows that he's not very serious about you. Having sex with him won't change this, and you'd feel even worse. If you did have sex with him, he'd probably tell his friends, and word gets around fast. Do you think you could stand it if this happened?*

*He's not really considering your feelings and if you get any deeper involved with him you'll probably get hurt. Express your love in other thoughtful ways. If he leaves because you won't have sex with him, consider yourself lucky.*

## GIRLFRIEND CAN'T HANDLE MOTHERHOOD

Dear Dianne:

I am 17 years old, and I'm two months pregnant. I didn't want to get pregnant, because I wanted to wait until I finished school first. But now it's too late to think about it, so I've decided to have the baby. My boyfriend just proposed to me. But my parents don't think I'm ready for marriage. I think I can handle marriage. Please help me. I really don't want to have the baby but my boyfriend wants the child.  
*Not Ready for Marriage*

*Annapolis, Maryland*

Dear *Not Ready for Marriage*:

*Because our magazine works three months ahead of time, you are probably well on the way to having your baby. It doesn't sound like you're ready for marriage or motherhood. Perhaps you can arrange to give the child your boyfriend's last name, and maybe his family could take custody of the child. If not, you can put the child up for adoption if you don't feel ready for the responsibility. You'll be unhappy if you jump into a life-long marriage contract just because you're having a child. Be honest about your feelings with him. It will be better for the both of you in the long run.*

## GIRL CAN'T STAND HER MOTHER

Dear Dianne:

I have to tell you that I can't stand my mother. Sometimes I want

to kill her. She wants me to get out of her life. I love my mother but she wants to put me in a shelter. If she loves me why does she want to do this to me? It may be because I have a bad temper and she's afraid that I'll lose it. My mother gets very sick. I don't have any friends. If I run away, I'll get put away. My mother won't get me a bike and she won't let me go down south to see my grandmother.

*Bee-Bee  
Brooklyn, New York*

Dear *Bee-Bee*:

*Since your mother neglects you and treats you as if she doesn't want you, it's natural to feel the anger you have for her. Try having a long talk with your mother. Tell her that you love her, but since neither of you can get along, maybe she can help you find another place to stay that you would be happy with. Perhaps an aunt or an uncle will take you. As for getting a bike and going down south, she may not be able to afford either of these things. Try to be understanding, and if you show your mother that you can control your temper, you might be able to live with her on a more peaceful basis.*

## "HOW DO I GET OVER HIM?"

Dear Dianne:

I'm fourteen and I had been going with this young man for three years until she came along and took him from me. I feel bad since I lost him. Now I hear the girl is preg-

nant by him. Tell me what I should do. I like different boys, but I keep thinking of him.

Confused  
Los Angeles, Calif.

**Dear Confused:**

*It sounds as though your ex-boyfriend is seriously involved with his current girlfriend, and it's best to leave him alone. It may take you a while to get over him, but give yourself time. Be friendly with other guys and pretty soon you'll find that special someone. Good luck!*

**TEEN ACTS "TOO CHILDISH"**

Dear Dianne:

I'm 15 years old, and I have a serious problem. A lot of my friends have been telling me that I act like a little child. They say I have a childish mind and that really makes me feel bad. Sometimes I feel like crying when they tell me. They're not trying to be smart, just truthful. Even my father and boyfriend tell me the same thing. Now I just stay to myself because I don't have anyone to turn to and don't know where to go. Please help me.

Puzzled  
Chester, Pennsylvania

**Dear Puzzled:**

*What were you doing when they told you that you were acting childish? Ask them to be more specific. What is it that they think is childish? Do you throw tantrums? Giggle too much? Find out. It may be something you can change with just a little effort. If they can't be more specific and you can't figure out what it is, just relax. It takes some girls longer than others to grow into women. And when you finally do mature, you'll be a woman for a long time, so just enjoy being your age and yourself.*

**HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE BOthered**

Dear Dianne:

I am 15 years old and two months pregnant by my boyfriend. We've been going together for five years and we were always close before my pregnancy. Now that I'm pregnant, he seems like he doesn't

want to be bothered with me anymore. We never had arguments before but now we are snapping at each other all the time. Hope you can help.

Frightened  
Brooklyn, New York

**Dear Frightened:**

*What is happening between you and your boyfriend is caused by the stress of your pregnancy. It's a lot of responsibility for both you and him to deal with, and it means that you'll have to make a big adjustment in your lifestyle very soon. He may resent having to make this change and his touchiness is just his way of letting his feelings out. However, he probably still cares a lot for you, and it doesn't mean he likes you any less than before. Have a long talk with him about the changes both of you are going through and what you're feeling. Then discuss it with your parents. They'll be able to give you the support your boyfriend isn't able to give at the moment.*

**JUST TO BE CLOSE TO YOU...**

Dear Dianne:

I'm 16 years of age and I'm deeply in love with my boyfriend. My friends know him better than I do and they're telling me to break-up with him. We are planning to get married in the near future and I want to be as close as I can to him. The problem is that I saw him with the girl he used to go with and I'm afraid he still likes her. That broke my heart, all I could do was to be with another boy. What should I do? I'm going crazy!!

Help  
Milan, Georgia

**Dear Help:**

*Consider what your girlfriends are telling you about your boyfriend, and then compare it with what you know about him, before you take it too seriously. Keep in mind that many girls will tell you to break up with your boyfriend and then turn around and go steady with him themselves. Just be glad he's your boyfriend and don't let other girls make you feel insecure, including his ex-girlfriend. When you see him with her, it doesn't*

*mean that he likes her more than he likes you. But if you get upset about it, he may reconsider. Be cool.*

**TOO MANY HUSBANDS CAUSE PROBLEMS!**

Dear Dianne:

I need your advice on some of my past marriages. I am 26 years old. I have been married three times and I'm going with this guy who wants to marry me. I have divorced my three ex-husbands. Neither one of my three ex-husbands know that I have been married that many times. They each think that they are the first and the last with me. My boyfriend doesn't know that I've been married either. For the past three months every one of my ex-husbands has been writing me, saying that he loves me and wants to marry me again. I love them all and I also love my boyfriend. My boyfriend doesn't know that I've been receiving these letters. And I don't want to hurt him or my ex-husbands. I'm afraid that if they all meet up with each other there is going to be trouble. Every last one of them is jealous. Please help me and advise; they all plan to visit me during the holidays. What shall I do?

Afraid and Confused  
Greensboro, Missouri

**Dear Afraid and Confused:**

*The best you can do to keep them from running into each other is to ask them to call before they drop by so that you can plan your schedule. And although it may not be necessary to tell your ex-husbands that you've been married before, your current boyfriend would probably appreciate it if you're honest with him and told him the truth about your other marriages. Doing this may keep you from getting into deeper trouble. If he really loves you it won't matter when he finds out.*



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# FLASHBACK

**SHE'S BEEN ON THE MOVIE SCENE A NUMBER OF YEARS AND IT SEEMS THAT HER BEAUTY AND TALENT BLOSSOM TOGETHER!!!**

Once upon a time, not too long ago, a mechanic and a teacher in San Francisco had five kids, three boys and two girls. One of the little girls was very happy when they moved to Oklahoma and Mississippi where she enjoyed taking her grandfather's mule and picking up her cousins who lived in the forest. But those childhood fairytale days are gone now and the little girl grew up to be Hollywood star, Vonetta McGee.

She didn't start off being a star. After she graduated from San Francisco State College, she met a man, and got engaged. She promised she would marry him after she took a trip to Europe. Well, that promise was broken, but not intentionally. How did she know that she would be discovered at a party in Italy which would launch her into a career of making movies?

Her first movie in Rome was called *The Big Silence*. She made a few more flicks there and then moved to Hollywood where she starred in *Melinda*, *Blacula*, *Hammer*, *Motown 9000*, and *Thomassine and Bushrod*. Hollywood is also where she first saw her lover-to-be, Max Julien on screen. She sent out the word that she'd like to meet him. He got the message through the grapevine, called her up, said "I'm coming over, baby," and they've been a loving duo ever since.

Her latest movie venture is called *Brothers*. In this movie, a love story about Angela Davis and George Jackson, Vonetta plays the leading lady, and Bernie Casey along with Ron O'Neal play her leading men. It will definitely be a pleasure to watch because not only is this ex-model beautiful, she also possesses mucho talent. Watch out!



# VONETTA McGEE



Vonetta, along with Sidney Poitier, presents award at gala affair she was asked to host.



William Marshall was Vonetta McGee's lover in *Blacula*, an exciting Black horror film.



Here she is expressively beautiful in the turban that she wrapped herself. Very creative!



Vonetta McGee and Max Julien greet friends, Paula Kelly and Bernie Casey. She is starring with Bernie in her latest movie, *Brothers*.



She has lots of hobbies but her favorites are cooking, sewing and designing. Here's example of one of her original leather creations.



# AN INTIMATE CHAT WITH

# SINGER MARTHA REEVES!



**MARTHA AND HER VANDELLAS' POPULARITY HAS NEVER DIED! READ ALL ABOUT MARTHA'S FUTURE RECORDING PLANS IN THIS EXCITING ARTICLE!!!**

BY J. RANDY TARABORRELLI  
PHOTOS BY JAMES JEFFREY

When I was a teenager back in Philadelphia, I was raised on a diet that consisted mainly of my mother's Italian food, and the spicy sounds of Martha Reeves & The Vandellas. So, seven years ago, if someone had tried to convince me that Martha would be sitting in my living room and we'd be discussing "the good old days," it would've been beyond my wildest dreams.

But dreams do come true in Hollywood and I was finally given the opportunity to see just where Martha Reeves is coming from and what she's all about. It didn't surprise me at all to discover that she is a very together lady with a lot of love in her heart.

Martha recalled that she was born in the South and grew up on the east side of Detroit. She is



Martha Reeves is anxiously awaiting the release of her new album which should surely establish her as a solo artist in her right.

from an enormous family of eleven children, plus her parents. Just as nearly everyone else in Detroit at that time, Martha belonged to many vocal groups. She could be found singing on the streetcorners at any time until, finally, she landed a job at Motown in the A&R department.

The rest of her story reads like a fairytale: she was swooped from behind her secretarial desk and into the show-biz limelight as she and her Vandellas began doing background work at Motown which eventually led to a recording career of their own.

Sipping a cool glass of iced tea, Martha recalled, "As the original Vandellas, Annette Beardie, Rosalind Ashford and I recorded a whole album with Marvin Gaye in 1961 which was released as Marvin Gaye and The Vandellas. In fact, we provided the vocal back up on his first hit "Stubborn Kind of Fellow." Our first record as Martha & The Vandellas on Motown was "I'll Have To Let Him Go" and it didn't really go anywhere. But then came "Come and Get These Memories" and that started it all for us!" That hit tune was followed by such soul classics as "Heatwave," "Livewire," "Quicksand," "My Baby Loves Me," "Jimmy Mack," "Lovebug Leave My Heart Alone," "Honey Chile," "Bless You" and countless others.

## "I'M A MOTOWN GRADUATE"

But just as Martha and her beaded Vandellas came into prominence, so did Diana Ross and her sequined Supremes. I wondered if Martha felt as if she were playing "second fiddle" at Motown to The Supremes? "No," she quickly responded, "because I believe that everybody has a chance to do whatever they can do with any company and we played our own fiddle. We were what Motown wanted us to be and we were as big as they wanted us to be." Did she feel slighted in any way at Motown; did she feel that maybe she should've been "bigger?"



This sexy lady says there have been over 20 Vandellas throughout the career of the group Martha Reeves and the Vandellas. Imagine!!!



"When I'm on stage in front of an audience, I can just open up, express a song, show my heart, and maybe cry in public," she says!!!

"I am bigger," Martha smiled, "I'm still moving and I'm still alive. I didn't go to Motown to learn how to sing and I didn't leave there in need of knowing how to. I am a graduate of the college of Motown. One of the reasons I dislike doing interviews is because I am usually misquoted as saying bad things against Motown. With all that they did for me, how can I say anything bad about Motown when they helped put me where I am today. I'll always appreciate that and be grateful!"

Unlike most female groups, Martha and the Vandellas were not ever really a group unit but rather, confesses the sultry entertainer, a lead singer and two back-up girls. Explains Martha, "I think that my decision to have back up singers was based more on a need for companionship in the beginning, as opposed to how well they could sing. That's where a lot of people got the wrong impression

about the Vandellas. There are a lot of things that I won't even discuss because I don't think that I can fully explain it to you so that you'd know what went down. In other words, "you can't go backstage and enjoy the show."

But since those particular shows were over anyway, I questioned Martha further about the Vandellas, and with a refreshing honesty she frankly, and with that ever present smile continued, "I've had more background vocals do background and be called Vandellas than the world will ever know."

## THERE'VE BEEN 20 VANDELLAS

"Believe it or not there have been over 20 Vandellas. In fact, on our hit "My Baby Loves Me," there were the Four Tops behind me and a group called The Adantes, and no Vandellas at all." Besides the original Vandellas, the most well known were Betty Kelly, Lois Reeves and Sandra Tilly. "It hasn't really been a group," says Martha, "since I was an employer of Vandellas all those years. I'm just glad that I had the chance to create as many opportunities for as many girls I've worked with over the past 15 years."

"I'm proud that my voice has been dominant on all of the things you've heard as Martha & The Vandellas, whether it was really Vandellas back there, someone else or even me doing all three parts. I think that I've secured a vocal identity. In fact, I think that I sing better than I used to and that's only because I'm trying to be better than I am."

If as suddenly coming to a self-realization, her eyes brightened and she added, "Maybe that's it! Maybe it's my desire to be a better performer this year than I was last year that keeps Martha Reeves standing on her two feet."

It ended for Martha and the Vandellas as a Motown trio in December, 1971, but, just for the

**MORE**

# REEVES!

record, there will always be Vandellas in name. In fact, "Martha Reeves & The Vandellas" just completed a smash gig at the Sahara in Vegas. "I will always have two Vandellas with me to recreate the sound that I am known for," said Martha.

After leaving Motown and to all intents and purposes other than the need for vocal back-up, The Vandellas, Martha ventured on a whole new exciting solo career. She signed a recording contract with MCA Records and released an explosive LP produced by Richard Perry. "But it didn't go anywhere," Martha sadly states. "And I still don't know what happened!" Currently with Arista Records, Martha anxiously awaits the release of her first LP for that label, "For The Rest Of My Life."

## HAS HAD A 15 YEAR CAREER

I asked Martha to define professionalism. She thought a moment and seriously answered, "Professionalism is when you assume all of your responsibilities and handle all of your obligations whatever they might be. You have to try to surround yourself with people you can trust and that enhances your professionalism. I think I've been totally involved in my career for these 15 years, which makes me a professional. You can't let anything come between you and your profession. When you go out on that stage, everything else has to be somewhere else."

"What is here right now and what is important is the charisma and the magic that starts the minute that you are with your people — your audience." Martha grinned as she recalled that many times she may not have had star billing on a show, "but when I came out on that stage, it was my stage, my people, my band and my time. It's a magic that happens when you have that right combination of the audience, music, lights and a good show!"

The chorus of "I'm Ready For Love" played in the background as the singer continued, "I always have an open mind and heart when I sing. It's more like praying to me than singing! And my per-



**Her start in show business is like a dream. Just picture sitting behind a desk and then being asked to sign a recording contract!!!**

formance has always depended on the charisma of the audience. Sometimes I feel as if the minute I go out on stage, another force has taken over and brought those tears to my eyes during a song. I don't know what it does to my audience but I hope it makes them as happy as it makes me!"

Martha Reeves is a Cancerian, though she places little value on astrology. Her hobbies include painting, bowling, playing tennis, crocheting, writing songs and poetry. "I am convinced," declares vivacious Martha, "that I have ESP. ESP is what you dream while your eyes are open and while you're awake. It's an inner feeling that supersedes reality and you just know what's coming in the future." She is also very deep into Transcendental Meditation, "which took me into myself and gave me a lot of self-knowledge. It's all about what you want for yourself. If you want to know more about yourself, then you work at it and you will!"

Mother of a six-year-old son, Eric, "the blessing of my life," Martha has some very good advice for young people with dreams of

being in show business, "I know they've heard it before but the most important thing is to stay in school. You have to have an education because it is impossible to be an illiterate singer these days."

"A lot of the trouble I've had has been in negotiating contracts. You should know how to do that and you have to even know how to read music! As a matter of fact, I know a lot of musicians who received their basic musical training in high school. It's the people who learn their lessons best that succeed fastest in this business."

## FEELS SHE'S ACCOMPLISHED MANY THINGS

Martha admits that there have been many lows as well as the show-biz induced "highs" in her career, and, in 1972, she considered retiring. But, thanks to the encouragement and love of friends and fans, she decided to remain in the business. Martha says, "There's a lot of love for me in the world and I have a lot of love to give back in return. There are a lot of reasons I stay in this business. I know that discouragements can sometimes lead you to the wayside and have you wondering, 'Is this what I want??', but through my religious beliefs and educational background I have been able to keep on, and I don't waste many days."

"I try to accomplish something every day. I feel that you have to. I've accomplished some things that wouldn't earn me a standing ovation, or make headlines in the papers, but they are exceptional accomplishments to me. For instance, I was delighted to finally learn to be patient. Patience is really a virtue and I have mastered the art of being patient. I consider that an accomplishment!"

In the future, Martha Reeves plans to give us "more of the same, only of a better quality." Full speed ahead is her motto and she doesn't believe in looking back over her shoulder, "Why look back and say 'too bad this happened' or 'I should have done that.' I know that if I have success on my mind and I work at it, I can achieve success. Each situation brings on a new lesson and the only thing I can do is keep dealing with myself and continue to learn."

CONTINUED

# ROCK & SOUL STARS



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Ever wanted to receive a free gift or a phone call from the celebrity you admire the most? Well, you might be a lucky winner if you send your name, age, address and a photo if you have one, in care of *Right On!* Magazine/From Stars To Fans! Lucky winners are selected every month so choose your favorite celebrity carefully and send in today. Who knows? You might pick up the phone one day and find that your star is on the other end!!!

# from stars TO FANS!

FREE GIFTS!  
FREE GIFTS!  
FREE GIFTS!  
FREE GIFTS!  
FREE GIFTS!



Somebody in New York City, New York is blowing the whistle, and it's not the police, it's Eve Montgomery. And she's letting everybody know that she got a gold whistle on a gold chain from Freddie "Boom Boom" Washington, Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs! He's her number one star, and she was thrilled to receive her necklace. So thrilled that she leaves it on even when she's taking a shower!



Fourteen-year-old Traci A. Burns isn't an ordinary Haywood Nelson fan. She's a lucky Haywood Nelson fan. Why? Because she was the only girl in her hometown of Amityville, New York to receive a genuine, recent, bona fide photo of Haywood, her favorite star. All her friends are asking where it is, but only Traci knows for sure.



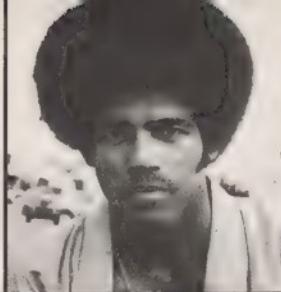
"You're My Love, My Life, My Soul" is what Janet Vanley is singing these days about Kevin Barnes. And that's the name of the record he sent her by his group Jimmy Briscoe and the Little Beavers. She's one lady in Stockton, Calif. that doesn't have stars in her eyes—she's got them in her ears!



**Gregg McDuffie** is one sweet smelling brother these days! He's been turning people on with the beautiful cologne that Irene Cara sent him as a gift. She wanted to send him something really nice because he drew a striking picture of her in pastels. And this is her way of thanking him. Well now Gregg is grateful to her too, and he uses the cologne sparingly 'cause he wants it to last a long, long time. If you're ever in Miami, Florida, drop by and take a whiff.



**Mr. Cyril O'Mara Dirpen** is stylin' for days in his necklace from a beautiful lady who won his heart by singing in a group that starts with an S. Yes, that's right, he got a gift from his favorite star, Olympia Sylvers. When it came in the mail he said "Yazoo!" which is also the name of his city in Mississippi. Hope his main squeeze doesn't freeze when she sees this gift from another woman around his neck!



A lot of **Thelma Ann Norwood**'s friends think she's the best interior decorator in Pichard, Alabama. And they all want their rooms decorated the same way. Meaning they all want to have an exclusive photo of Jim Kelly on their walls the way she does. Yes, it's true, Thelma received his picture just the other day. One showing him in his tennis outfit getting ready to smash the ball. Now with his photo, Thelma will be the smash at the ball!



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## Are You Suffering From A Case Of Loneliness?! Well Join The Pen Pal Bunch And Make New Friends All Over The World!

Send your name, age, address, hobbies to:  
Right On! Pen Pals  
7060 Hollywood Blvd.  
Suite 800  
Hollywood, Calif., 90028

Note:  
Hey, dig it...in case you've spotted your

name among the pen pals, there's no need sitting around waiting for someone to write you first. If you see anyone listed that you'd like to correspond with... don't wait... Simply select a name... start writing! (In other words just get it on!)

When you submit your name to the pen pal list, you'll be better off sending your name, age, zodiac sign, your hobbies, likes/dislikes, and the kind of person you prefer to correspond with. Include sharp, clear black & white photo if you like.

Keep in mind that should your name be printed in Right On! you'll likely receive hundreds of pieces of mail. If you don't think you want to deal with the possible response, think twice before submitting your name!

Also, if you are serious about corresponding with a pen pal, when you write that person, you'll probably get a faster reply if you send them a self-addressed stamped envelope for their return correspondence with you.

## PEN PALS OF THE MONTH



Sophia Lanier, 13  
Rt. 1, Box 177  
Williamston, N.C.  
Likes Sylvers, art and guys 13-15.



Suraji Mohammed, 18  
c/o Mohammed Habibi  
Mark's Electrical Works  
P.O. Box 8869  
Accra, New Town Ghana  
Digs singing and responding.



Denise Williams, 12  
805 West Street  
Beaufort, S.C. 29902  
Capricorn likes to sing.



Belinda Kirkland, 18  
916 Linden Street  
Dothan, Alabama  
Pisces digs dancing and talking.

### 13 AND UNDER

Scorpion wants your letters!

Sheila Jennings, 14  
779 Platt St.

Bridgeport, Conn. 06606

Send pix and get answered quick!

Natasha Jones, 12  
1421 Wabash  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45212

Sagittarian answers all!  
Jackie Hatch, 12  
3123 Oberlin Ct.  
Springdale, Ohio 45246

Everybody write.  
Becky Matern, 13  
320 N.E. 9th St.  
Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533

Sings, bikes, and dances.  
Valerie Odom, 12  
6226 N. Woodstock St.  
Philadelphia, Penn. 19138

Knits, crochets and plays basketball.  
Connie Moncia Buggs  
P.O. Box 194  
Edgefield, S.C. 29824

Cominian plays tennis, baseball, swims and digs

basketball.  
Tina LaShondia Phillips, 13  
1512 East 4th St.  
Corinth, Miss. 38834

Digs collecting posters and watching commercials.  
Bernard All, 13  
317 Spruce St.  
Jacksonville, Fla. 32204

Responds to everyone!  
Hattie M. Green, 13  
Rt. 2, Box 257  
Centre, Ala. 35960

Loves ice skating, photography and dressing up.  
Lisa Michelle Price, 13  
416 S. Poinsettia  
Compton, Calif. 90221

Libra likes swimming, dancing, records and males.  
Teresa Solomon, 13  
4982 Vista de Oro  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90043

### AGES 14-17

Good looking young men, 16-18.

Theresa Williams, 15  
45 Ormond St.  
Mattapan, Massachusetts

Capable Capricorn!  
Barbara Burrell, 17  
315 West Springs Ave.  
Ardsmore, Pa. 19003

Taurus writes fiction and plays baseball. Ages 15-16  
write:  
Edward Pollard  
440 S. Lake Park  
Chicago, Ill. 60653

Nice young men, 15-17,  
write:  
Kim Thomas, 15  
8921 South Harper  
Chicago, Ill. 60619

Loves movies, skating and boys!  
Kathleen Davis, 14  
13 Westervelt Pl.  
Irvington, N.J. 07111

Aquarian collects records, dances and cycles.  
Brian Price, 14  
220 W. Kelly Ave.  
Hampton, Va. 23663

Young people, 14-19, with a together mind write this dancer and singer!  
Alesia Wainwright, 14  
125 North Portland Ave.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11205

Fine Mamas, Only! (14-20)  
James Lawrence, 15  
1694 Madison Ave.  
New York, N.Y. 10029

Sincere Libra welcomes letters.  
Michelle Rene Robinson, 16  
3035 E. Minnesota St.  
Indianapolis, Ind. 46203

Digs dancing and basketball.  
Joann Watson, 17  
404 East 4th St.  
Hattiesburg, Minn. 39401

Likes tennis, swimming and track. Young men all over the world write.

Beverly Dudley, 17  
391 E. Britain  
Benton Harbor, Mich. 49022

Sporty Cancerian prefers boys.  
Sherrell-Anne Clarke, 14  
7 Hermitage Rd.  
Kingston 7  
Jamaica, West Indies

Digs football and dancing.  
Everybody 15-17 write.  
Edmund, Osei Owusu  
c/o Mr. Samuel Donkor  
Mankoadze Fisheries LTD.  
P.O. Box 103  
Tema, Ghana

Digs making people happy!  
Theresa (Tee Cee) Cochran,  
16  
18017 Griggs  
Detroit, Mich 48221

Cancerian (Manhattan's fan)  
digs dancing and writing.  
Annette Dixon, 17  
Rt. 3, Box 156  
Utica, Miss. 39175

Prefers poem lovers, says Leo.  
Monique Broyard, 16  
245 W. 75th  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90003

Aries lady writes poems and  
digs dancing.  
Diane Winston, 17  
Rt. 1, Box 260-H  
Troy, Va. 22974

Sports fans.  
Douglas Pryor, 16  
1626 West Erie Ave.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19140

Gemini digs all mail.  
Terrisena Nicholson, 17  
5620 Warnock St.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19141

Hobbies: martial arts,  
skating and boys!  
Suzanne Untley  
814 Nelms St.  
Louisville, Ga. 30434

Arian loves cooking and  
reading.  
Lou Bertha Collins, 16  
614 Hemlock St.  
Andrews, S.C. 29510

Cute dudes write this  
swimmer and bike rider.  
Hydia Coney, 14  
6621 Pauline Dr.  
New Orleans, La. 70126

Communicative brothers  
write this Arian sister.  
Laura Walker, 14  
922 Cliff St.  
N. Brad Pitt, Pa. 15104

Gemini answers all!  
Sylvia Washington, 16  
c/o M.S.G.T.  
Lester E. Washington  
American Embassy  
Seoul, Korea  
A.P.O. San Francisco,  
Calif. 96301

People 14-28 write this  
Scorpiian.  
Jeannie Thomas, 17  
976 Georgia Ave.  
Macon, Ga. 31201

Wanna correspond?  
Gwen Hocut, 17  
705 E. 27th St.  
Peterson, N.J. 07504

Libran answers all!  
Janet Nalty, 14

II Leith Road  
Kingston 13, Jamaica

Aquarian swims, dances and  
digs going to movies.  
Patricia Wint, 14  
F Holly Av.  
Hagley Park P.  
Kingston 11

Leo loves letters.  
Rosa Culbreath  
Rt. 1, Box 20  
Ridge Spring, S.C. 29129

Boogey down with the mail!  
Lori Neely, 15  
1211 Sage Street  
Jacksonville, Ark. 72076

All races and sexes write!  
Lisa Player, 14  
3834 Lisa Lane  
Shreveport, La. 71109

Aquarian "loves" through  
the mail!  
Darrell Jackson (St.)  
515 Georgia Ave.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11207

Cancerian loves to party and  
prefers dudes!  
Delious Daphne Jackson, 14  
8930 S. Bishop  
Chicago, Ill. 60620

Shopping is my thing!  
James Clavin Trammell, 16  
219 Pontotoc St.  
Helena, Ark. 72342

Gemini responds!  
Jerry Danclar, 17  
Bourg Mulatresse  
Assing Avenue  
Lower Santa Cruz  
Trinidad, West Indies

Young men preferred.  
Angela (Cookie) Anderson, 15  
9038 S. Bennett  
Chicago, Ill. 60617

Dudes 16-19 only.  
Jennifer Burks, 16  
207 Ves Rd.  
Lynchburg, Va. 24503

International pals welcome!  
Collects stamps, knits  
and cooks.  
Beverly M. Jones, 17  
Armadale, Alexandria P.O.  
St. Ann, Jamaica

Digs traveling and people.  
Dee Dee Walker, 16  
10 Lawton St.  
East Orange, N.J. 07017

Responds to half!  
Rochelle Wright, 15  
97 Peshime Ave.  
Newark, N.J. 07103

Taurus lady loves letters!  
Connie Wilson, 16  
Rt. 1, Box 467  
Lake City, Fla. 32055

## 18 AND OVER

Into art, track, soccer and  
women! Females, 16-19, write  
Virgoan.  
Matthew J. Putman, 20  
HQCO, 3rd BN, S-4  
MCRD, Parris Island,  
S.C. 29205

Digs living life fully!  
Anthony Awa, 20  
50 Ubengwako Street  
Ajejunle, Apapa  
Lago, Nigeria

Friendly Libra loves to swim.  
Achempong Alex, 21  
44m Independence Hall  
University of Science & Tech.  
Kumasi, Ghana

Into cooking, fashion, singing,  
bowling and honest. True,  
intelligent males.  
Diane Lynam, 24  
1407 N. Lang Ave.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15208

Dig tall men? Write this  
Jamaican Sagittarian.  
Kenneth Williamson, 19  
lot 766 Than cres  
Bridgeport, St. Catherine  
Jamaica, West Indies

Loves to sing, write and  
draw.  
Neciey Carson, 20  
10267 Panola Dr.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Capricorn corresponds well.  
Deborah A. Giveno, 19  
134 North Ridge Rd.  
San Francisco, Calif. 94124

Aquarian prefers males.  
Alma I. Green, 22  
Rt. 2, Box 257  
Centre, Ala. 35960

Males, 23-30, write this  
5'2" Leo.  
Norma Bailey  
1625 Park Place, Apt. 12A  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11213

Soul brother in Germany  
welcomes letters from sisters.  
Frank Joelee  
Engenthaler 1  
6 Frankfurt/Main  
West Germany

Digs photography, stamp  
collecting and sports.  
All 18-70 write.  
Owusu John, 20  
P.O. Box x302 FNT  
Kumasi, Ghana

19 and 20 year olds write!  
Fitzway Williams  
Snow Hill P.O.  
Portland, Jamaica

Arian loves to party and go  
to the museum.

Jennifer Brown, 23  
369 Elton St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11208

Digs making friends.  
Juliet S. Walker, 22  
2908 Leigh St.  
Richmond, Va.

Virgo, all foxes write.  
Gerald Ewell, 25  
P.O. Box 31 G.P.O.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11202

Attractive Aries.  
Karen Jarvis, 20  
Red 1, Box 160-B  
Exmore, Va. 23350

Taurus awaits fine, tender  
ladies, 18-27.  
Darrell R. Dervin, 20  
3939 W. 28th St.  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90018

Gemini likes to sing and  
draw. Sisters with together  
minds write.  
Mark (Goldie) Holland, 21  
526 South 14th Street  
Apt. A-2  
Newark, N.J. 07103

Into photography and sports.  
Mature young ladies write.  
Waymon Banks  
Youth Training School  
P.O. Box 800  
Ontario, Calif. 91761

Answers almost all, but will  
give all to the few answered.  
Pamella Brown  
33 University Cres.  
Kingston 6, Jamaica

Libran prefers male pals.  
Eutilda Williams, 22  
Grants Town P.O.  
Nassau, Bahamas

Aries welcomes international  
letters. Part-time actor.  
Otis Reado, 18  
234 Clayton Homes  
Houston, Texas 77004

Plays lawn tennis and  
basketball.  
Vincent Andoh-Ogunro, 18  
Sekondi Sec. School  
P.O. Box 190  
Secondi, Ghana

## INMATES

Have need, will write!  
Leonard Ward and/or  
Ellis Quarterman  
P.O. Box 7150  
Garden City, Ga. 31248

Nathaniel Carroll  
200 East Seventh St.  
Topeka, Kansas 66603

Pisces prefers females.  
Willie Patterson, 24  
Camp 12 II 39104  
Parchman, Miss. 38738

# gettin' it straight

## (Questions & Answers)

If you have any questions about your favorite soul stars, send them to **GETTING IT STRAIGHT / RIGHT ON! MAGAZINE / 7060 HOLLYWOOD BLVD., HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028.**

**Dear Right On!**  
I would like to know if Rufus Thomas is Chaka Khan's father. I heard that he was.

Doreen Griffith  
Brooklyn, New York



Does Foster Sylvers wear a wig?



Does Billy Dee Williams have children?



Where can I write Johnny Mathis?



Is Chaka Khan married?



Where can I write Candi Staton?

**Dear Doreen:**  
**Rufus Thomas is not Chaka Khan's father. His daughter is Carla Thomas.**

**Dear Right On!**  
Is it true that Chaka Khan married her boyfriend, Richard Holland? Did Natalie Cole marry her boyfriend, Kevin Nance?

Shirline Spencer  
Currie, North Carolina

**Dear Shirline:**  
Yes, Chaka Khan did marry her "sweet thing," Richard Holland. Unfortunately, Natalie Cole and her boyfriend called off their wedding.

**Dear Right On!**  
How old are Billy Dee Williams' children and what are their sexes?

Traci Carr  
Hyattsville, Maryland

**Dear Traci:**  
Billy Dee Williams has a 15-year-old son, Corey; and two daughters, Miyako, 14, and Hannah, 2 years old.

**Dear Right On!**  
Is it really true that the lady on the Ohio Players' album cover

died? If so, how did she die? Who killed her?

No Name

**Dear No Name:**  
The rumor that the Ohio Players' model on the album cover *Honey* died is totally false. She is still alive.

**Dear Right On!**  
Where can I write to Philip Thomas, Pam Grier, Tamara Dobson, Irene Cara, and the Sylvers besides *Right On!*? How old is Jim Kelly?

Leta Gaston  
Chicago, Illinois

**Dear Leta:**  
You may write to Philip in care of Camillo Marcucci, 2040 Ave. of the Stars, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, Calif. 90067. Pam Grier's address is 1717 N. Highland, Suite 1210, Hollywood, Calif. 90028. Irene Cara can be reached in care of William Morris Agency, 151 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212. Tamara Dobson can be written to in care of Mr. Dorfman, Warner Bros., 75 Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York. The Sylvers are

Cicely Tyson did portray Miss Jane Pitman in the movie but Cicely is still living. What you got confused is the fact that Miss Tyson was portraying the character of a person who is now dead. There was actually a Jane Pitman who did die in 1961.

**Dear Right On!**  
When did the Jacksons start out? Who is Jackie married to? When did Ralph Carter get the role of Michael in "Good Times"? Does Redd Foxx have a son named Mike Warren?

Yvonne Brown  
Beulaville, North Carolina

**Dear Yvonne:**  
Last year CBS showed a movie about Miss Jane Pitman which starred Cicely Tyson. In the movie it said that Miss Jane Pitman died in 1961. I want to get this straight: was Cicely Tyson "Miss Jane Pitman" and did she die at that year?

Deiores Scrugg

**Dear Delores:**  
Cicely Tyson did portray Miss Jane Pitman in the movie but Cicely is still living. What you got confused is the fact that Miss Tyson was portraying the character of a person who is now dead. There was actually a Jane Pitman who did die in 1961.

**Dear Right On!**  
I have tried several times to purchase the original soundtrack from the movie *Sparkle* but to no avail. Can you tell me where I can purchase the original soundtrack, or where I can write to Curtom Studios?

L. Weaver  
Bronx, New York

**Dear L. Weaver:**  
I am sorry, but the original soundtrack from *Sparkle* was not released for the public to buy. The only record which contains the songs from the movie is Aretha Franklin's gold album on the Atlantic Records label.

**Dear Right On!**  
Could you tell me if Soul Train dancer Sharon Hill is married?

**Does she have any children? Does she make her own clothes?**

Monique Brown  
Norfolk, Virginia

**Dear Monique:**  
Sharon Hill is unmarried and has no children. She does not make her own clothes; she buys them at popular shops around Los Angeles.

**Dear Right On!**  
What is the name of Foster's father? Can you put in more pin-ups of Foster, Haywood Nelson, and Michael and Jerome Jackson?

Denise Smith  
Bronx, New York

**Dear Denise:**  
Foster's father is Leon Frank Sylvers, Jr. Yes, you will be seeing pin-ups of these favorites in future issues.

**Dear Right On!**  
Where do the Sylvers live? What are all of their real names? How can I get a large photo of the Sylvers family? What does Foster do when he's at home? What state does Charmaine live

in? Does James Sylvers have a girlfriend, if so, what is her name? Which of the Sylvers go to school?

No Name  
Chicago, Illinois

**Dear No Name:**  
The Sylvers live in Palos Verdes, California. Their names are as follows: Olympia Ann, Leon Frank Sylvers, III, Charmaine Elaine, James Jonathan, Edmund Theodore, Joseph Richard, Angela Marie, Patricia Lynn, Foster Emerson, and Joseph Christopher. You may get a large photo of the Sylvers probably by joining their fan club. The address is P.O. Box 67700, Los Angeles, California 90067. When Foster is at home he likes to play football or other active sports. Charmaine lives in the Los Angeles area. James doesn't have any particular girl at the moment; he's still available. For more information, see our November 1976 issue. If you missed

MORE

**CONTINUED**

it, you can order a back issue. See page 13. The Sylvers who are in school include Angela, Pat, Foster, and Chris.

Dear Right On!:

Is the leader of Parliament the leader of Bootsy's Rubber Band? Is Fred Williamson really conceited?

Erica W.  
Cleveland, Ohio



What's Dewayne Jessie's sign?

the people instead of their fan clubs. I would also like to send Stevie Wonder a poem about his newest LP. Please give me his address.

Amanda S.  
Queens, New York

Dear Amanda:

You may write to Jermaine Jackson and Stevie Wonder in care of Motown Records, 6255 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, California 90028. You may write to Miss Staton in care of Warner



Is Cicely Tyson dead?

son was given to him the first week in September when he came up for an exclusive photo shooting. He's gotten so much mail though, it's been difficult for him to answer it all.

Dear Right On!:

Do the male Sylvers wear wigs? Where can I write to the Sylvers and the Jacksons? Which people in the Sylvers family and the Jacksons family are married and which ones aren't?

Jackie Oliver



How old is Tamara Dobson?

Dear Erica:

George Clinton, the leader of Parliament, or overlord, we should say, is not the leader of the Rubber Band, Bootsy Collins is. However, George Clinton co-writes the Rubber Band's material along with Bootsy. Fred Williamson is actually more self-assured than conceited. There was an article on that subject in the October 1976 issue. If you missed it there are still extra copies. Fill out the coupon on page 13.

Dear Right On!:

What is Brenda Sykes up to now? How old is she?

Mari Threatt  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mari:

Brenda Sykes is currently featured in the TV series "Executive Suite." She's 27 years old.

Dear Right On!:

Where can I write to Jermaine Jackson and Candi Staton? I would like for my letters to reach

Brothers Records, 3300 Warner Blvd., Burbank, California 91510.

Dear Right On!:

Is it true that Michael Jackson married the girl on the "Brady Bunch"?

Edwina Debach  
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Edwina:

No, that's not true!

Dear Right On!:

Am I correct that when you mail a letter to a star in care of Right On! that you're supposed to see that the star gets it? I mailed two cards to Michael Jackson at the beginning of August. I mailed a birthday card and a special card to him, and I addressed them in care of Right On! Can you tell me how long it'll be before you give him his August mail?

G. Joseph  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear G.:

Yes, you are correct in your assumption that we deliver the mail to the stars if you send it in care of Right On! All of the mail addressed to Michael Jack-

Dear Jackie:

The Sylvers do not wear wigs. You may write to them in care of Right On! Magazine, 7060 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 800, Hollywood, California 90028 or P.O. Box 67700, Los Angeles, California. You may write to the Jacksons in care of Right On! also. The married Sylvers are Charmaine and Leon. The unmarried members of the family include Olympia, James, Edmund, Ricky, Pat, Angela, and Foster. The married Jacksons are Maureen, Tito, Jackie, and Marlon and Jermaine. Michael La Toya, Randy and Janet are still available.

Dear Right On!:

How old is Tamara Dobson and why don't we hear much about her anymore? What is she up to these days?

Danielle Sommers  
Danville, Illinois

Dear Danielle:

Tamara is in her late 20's. Right now she is co-starring in *Norman, Is That You?* We had photos from that movie in the November issue of Right On!

**Dear Right On!:**

I would like to know if Foster Sylvers wears a wig. I would also like to know his age. How old are Randy Jackson and Haywood Nelson, and what are their signs?

Michele Roberts  
Brooklyn, New York

**Dear Michele:**

Foster Sylvers does not wear a wig since he has no need to. He is a Pisces, age 14. Haywood is a 16-year-old Aries and Randy is a 15-year-old Scorpio.



Is Fred Williamson concealed?

**Dear Right On!:**

Who sings the lead on the Sylvers' new single, "Hotline"?  
Crystal R.

**Dear Crystal:**

Edmund Sylvers sings the lead on that song.

**Dear Right On!:**

I enjoy reading your magazine, especially Gettin' It Straight. For some time I have been trying to get the address of my favorite singer, Johnny Mathis.  
A Fan

**Dear Fan:**

You may write to Johnny Mathis in care of 9885 Charlieville Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212.

**Dear Right On!:**

I would like to know who sponsors and how you enter the Black Talented Teen Contest that was held in the Virgin Islands this year. The winner and coordinators were on Soul Train October 2, 1976.

Kim Clayton  
St. Albans, New York

**Dear Kim:**

Please write to Hal Jackson Productions, 350 5th Ave., Suite 3308, New York, New York 10001.

**Dear Right On!:**

I love Pat Sylvers a lot and I want to know more about her such as her age and height. Where can I write to her? Has she ever had a boyfriend? What is her sign?

Andre Snell  
North Miami, Florida



Is Michael Jackson married?

**Dear Andre:**

Pat is a 15-year-old Aries. She is 5'5". Yes, Pat has had boyfriends before. You may write to her in care of this magazine.

**Dear Right On!:**

I am very interested in the Lockers. I haven't read too much about them lately but I like their dance style and I would like to know where I can write for more information on them.

Greg Bryant  
New Rochelle, New York

**Dear Greg:**

We plan on having a story on the Lockers in the near future. An address where you may write to them in the meantime, is 9601 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 506, Beverly Hills, California 90210.

**Dear Right On!:**

Why did Norman Whitfield leave Motown? Where is he now?

James Taylor  
Dayton, Ohio

**Dear James:**

Norman Whitfield left Motown for Warner Brothers Records

where he started his own label. He is producing Undisputed Truth and Rose Royce.

**Dear Right On!:**

Where can I write to Pat Davis and the rest of her dance group, Something Special?

Janis Duncan  
Evansville, Indiana

**Dear Janis:**

You may write to Something Special in care of Daniel Ben Av Productions, 9200 Sunset Blvd., Suite 1220, Los Angeles, California 90069.

**Dear Right On!:**

Whatever happened to the pilot TV show Philip Thomas was making about a doctor? Will it be shown soon?

Lisa Spencer  
Detroit, Michigan

**Dear Lisa:**

According to Philip, nothing will be done with that particular pilot. However, he recently starred in another pilot called "Roosevelt and Truman." Keep your fingers crossed for him!

**Dear Right On!:**

I saw the male Sylvers on American Bandstand and their hair was really short, especially Foster's. Were they wearing wigs before then? The truth please.

Mike Steale

**Dear Mike:**

The Sylvers got hair cuts shortly before taping the show. All of them got their hair cut rather short, although Foster's was more noticeable than the rest. And that is the truth!

**Dear Right On!:**

Could you tell me what sign is Dewayne Jessie? Do you think he will be making anymore movies besides Car Wash and Bingo Long Travelling All-Stars? Where could I write to him?

Charmaine Watson

**Dear Charmaine:**

Dewayne Jessie was born September 21. He will probably be making more movies, so we'll keep you posted. You may write to him in care of the Phillip D. Taylor Organization, 9348 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 101, Beverly Hills, California 90210.

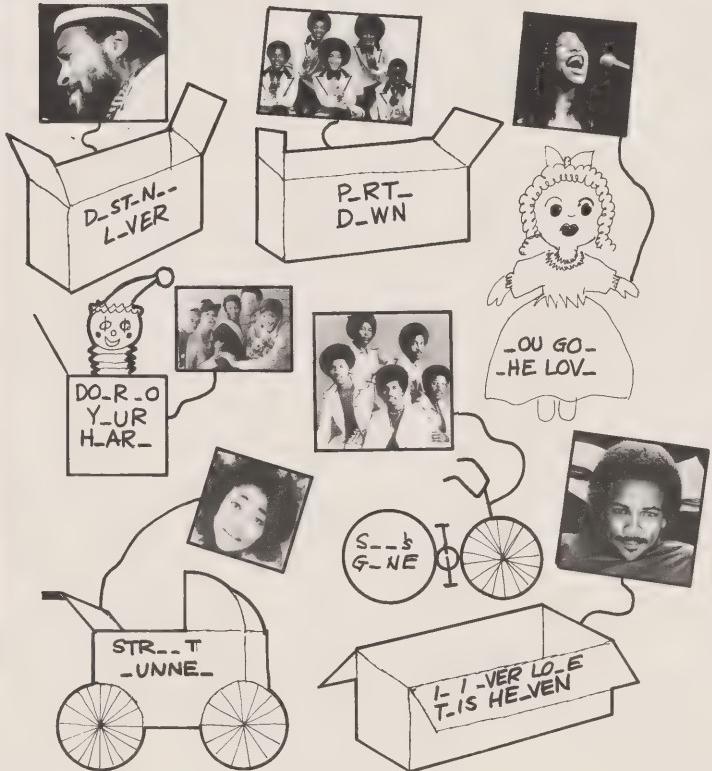
# RIGHT ON! FUN 'N' GAMES

Any game or puzzle ideas?  
Write: Right On!/ Suite 800/ 7060 Hollywood Blvd./ Hollywood/ California/ 90028.

6	7	1
10	5	1
9	3	

## **Disco Spin Gift Game**

**Christmas is over, and all the gifts have been opened. You've saved the tags to help you remember where to send thank you notes. The stars in the pictures on the tags were all in the top thirty disco spins Jan. '75. If they sent those spins to you as gifts this year, would you remember what they were? Fill in the empty spaces and complete the names of the songs. Answers on page 70.**



## The Movie Martian Game

If a Martian had a whole collection of super Black movies in his space ship and wanted you to identify the main star in each movie do you think you could do it? Try it and see, match the movie with the star by drawing a spacey line from one to the other. (See answers on page 70.)

- A. *Lady Sings the Blues*
  - B. *Corn Bread, Earl and Me*
  - C. *Sparkle*
  - D. *Sounder*
  - E. *Norman, Is That You?*
  - F. *Cloudine*
  - G. *Five On The Black Hand Side*
  - H. *The River Niger*
  - I. *Car Wash*
  - J. *Bingo Long Travelling All Stars*
  - K. *Cooley High*
  - L. *Let's Do It Again*
  - M. *Leadbelly*

Roger Mosley  
Billy Dee Williams  
Richard Pryor  
Diahann Carroll  
Bill Cosby  
Diana Ross  
Cicely Tyson  
Philip Thomas  
Verneeta Watson  
Glynn Turman  
O'Urville Martin  
Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs  
Larry Fishburne





Bill Smith  
19780 W. 92nd St.  
Sacramento, Calif.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
RIGHT ON! MAGAZINE  
7060 HOLLYWOOD BLVD (800)  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIF 90028



## SUPREMES FAN SPEAKS UP!

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in regards to Soul Stars of the Month in the October issue of *Right On!* As a devoted Supremes fan, I found the use of the picture of the original group, along with some of the article itself, very disturbing.

You gave the impression that Diana Ross was all there was to the group and that all the replacements since Diana have been very unstable in terms of the length of time they stayed with the Supremes. The entire article was a little one-sided in Diana's favor, and that was unfair because you eliminated



other members who helped to maintain the Supremes' style. What's sad about that is that the Supremes are more exciting than ever before, and each member has the opportunity, both on records and in live performances to show what she can do. This was unheard of when Diana was with the Supremes.

What you should have done, as with the Temptations in Soul Stars a few months ago, was to have a picture of the original group and a shot of the ladies as they are today.

I hope in the future you concentrate more on the group and not just on Diana because, let's face it, it's been six years since "Some Day We'll Be Together," and I think the public should be informed as to what the Supremes today are up to.

Jim Cummings  
Newton, Mass.

## MORE ON LARRY JACOBS NEEDED!

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to you in regards to the letter on Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs in the October issue. There are many people who dislike Mr. Jacobs but there are many people who love him, I'm sure. Mr. Jacobs has an entertaining career, to perform and help make people have an enjoyable evening. I don't see any reason for someone to write to your magazine and tell you not to put so much in about him.

I know for a fact that all the people I know enjoy seeing Mr. Jacobs perform. I must say for myself that I love to see him. I have pictures of him and articles on him. I know your magazine is based on how your readers feel about it so I'm telling you I'm one person who wants to see more on Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs. I'm not a subscriber to your magazine but I soon will be. I would also like to say that your magazine is the hippest magazine today.

. . . Angela Tomika Joyner  
Oxon Hill, Maryland

## FRED IS "DY-NO-MITE"

Dear Editor:

Your interview with Fred Williamson in the October issue was very challenging, to say the least. I admire Fred very much, not because he is handsome or rich, however. What I like about Fred is his total self-confidence in himself and self-control over his life.

Most people don't like him because they can't dig where he's coming from with all that self-awareness. Generally they are lacking this characteristic. Fred has influenced some of my viewpoints on life. Always believe in "you"—it's a main key to accomplishing anything. Never put yourself down, and stay assured of who you are, regardless of others' opinions. Once you acquire

these techniques, it's easier to control your actions and life.

Taking some of Fred's hints to being yourself can be very helpful in personal situations. It doesn't mean you must be a "bad, bad, Leroy Brown," but keep on truckin' with the attitude, "I can do it and I can be whoever I want to."

Bobbie Keeling  
Selma, Alabama

## SO YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS!

Dear Editor:

In your November '76 issue I noticed there were some complaints about your pen pal section. I have submitted my name several times since the column began and my name has not been printed yet! I have written to some of the names you have printed but correspondence usually only lasts a few letters. This letter isn't all a complaint, I was happy to see the pen pal section lengthened.

Melinda Bryant, 17  
111 Central Ave.  
Bractan, New York 14716

## DIANA OR PAM, WHO'S THE BEST?

Dear Editor:

In the September issue of *Right On!* I read that a reader disagreed that Diana Ross could not act as well as Pam Grier. I disagree with him because I rate Pamela's talents over Diana's because it doesn't only take talent, it takes nerves. I'm not putting Diana down, but in my opinion, Pam is better actress! If you have ever seen her movies you would see the point that she is showing how ill mannered and ignorant some Blacks are.

Angela Davis  
Buffalo, New York

\*\*\*\*\*Dear Readers:

We'd like to hear all of your thoughts on this subject! If you want to speak

your mind, send your letter addressed to Diana or Pam Debate/Right On! Magazine/7060 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 800/Hollywood, California 90028. Please submit your entries by January 30, 1977. The best letters will be printed in Right On!

—Editor

## MORE ON THE JACKSONS

Dear Editor:

I really enjoyed reading the articles you did on Michael Jackson in your November and December issues. I would like to know when you are going to have a centerfold on Michael in the magazine. I am not fed up with the Jacksons because I think the stories you do on them are great. Please keep doing articles on them. I think *Right On!* is the best magazine around.

Cynthia Thomas  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Editor:

I started reading your magazine a couple of months ago and I think it's great! The only thing I don't like is when readers write letters to you asking you not to write about the Jacksons or that they're sick of them or some other group. I know they have a right to express themselves in order to make this a better magazine, but I feel they can say it in a nicer way. Well, as for me, you can fill the whole magazine with the Jacksons. As Barry White says, "Can't get enough."

Yvonne Vega, 13  
Hialeah, Florida

## DON'T FORGET THE SPINNERS

Dear Editor:

Why not do a story on the Spinners? People don't seem to realize how superior they are. These five mellow men make master music and I think it's not right that all the people of *Right On!* can do is talk about how long the Sylvers' hair is, or how fine Michael is, or the Soul Train Gang.

I know that you've done a little something on the Spinners before but it was about as slack as you've been on the Dramatics or the Dynamic Superiors. It's just my opinion and I do have the right to express it just like anyone else.

Charletta Neuacheck

\*\*\*\*\*Dear Charletta:

We do plan to have something on the Spinners in our very next issue, including a color bonus photo. Many may not realize it but the Spinners are very generously devoting much of their time raising funds by performing free of charge for benefits for the ailing entertainer Jackie Wilson. There will also be articles on the Dynamic Superiors (who incidentally, have a new album out) as well as that fantastic group, the Dramatics. And yes, of course you have the

right to express your opinion. That's what this section is for. —Editor

## READER PRAISES KWANZA

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in regards to a beautiful group of Black actresses called KWANZA. They do volunteer benefits to raise money for needy families as well as all kinds of organizations. They came to our town to do a benefit show and it was just beautiful. It really means a lot to Blacks to know that some of their people who've made it didn't forget the people they met on the way up (So many seem to forget).

We met stars such as Esther Rolle, Isabelle Sanford, Brenda Sykes, Juanita Moore, Hannah Dean, and many others. They act just like ordinary people. I wish that many other Black actresses would get involved with KWANZA because this is the most together group I've ever known. I think more of our people need to know that the stars care. Please remind those stars with big heads that it's not the whites that got them there, but the Blacks who've supported them.

Brenda Thomas, 21  
Shreveport, Louisiana

## PEN PAL PEOPLE RESPOND

Dear Editor:

I have been reading *Right On!* for a long time. I actually have the very first issue of it. My mother also enjoys *Right On!* When she got to the pen pal section in the October issue she noticed the different age groups. Her comment was did you ever have any pen pals over the age of 30. I guess she said this because "over 18" is a little young for her. I think that's a good idea though. Keep on doing whatcha doin'.

Carolyn B.  
New York, N.Y.

\*\*\*\*\*Dear Carolyn:

We usually don't list pen pals who are over the age of 30 because our magazine caters to a younger audience. However, I am sure there are many persons on the 18 and over list who would be glad to hear from anybody any age and might even be able to put older readers in touch with somebody their age. Since many letters go unanswered it would give some people a warm feeling that an older person cares. Write on!

—Editor

Dear Editor:

In reading your December issue I found it necessary to reply to two of the letters in your section. First of all, I want to respond to a letter written by Elaine Wylie. I am an inmate and I can only base the foundation of the

problem as to the frustrations of others. I can relate very well but I have sent out numerous letters to young ladies only to receive no reply.

My second response relates to why people have their names placed in the pen pal section if they won't write back. I sympathize with Brother Joseph Brown because we feel the same way. He is more fortunate, however, since he did find a pen pal. Thank you for publishing *Right On!* and please include my address. Who knows? Maybe someone will write me.

Michael A. Barton  
384-84-4208  
Drawer A  
Fort Leavenworth, Ks. 66027

Dear Editor:

I have been reading *Right On!* for the past three years and I have submitted my name to the pen pal list several times, and every time that I received the magazine, I have never seen my name on the list.

I would also like to comment on the individuals who put their names in the pen pal section and when a person writes, they do not respond. I have written about 150 letters in the past two years and haven't received an answer yet. I am aware of your case load of work, but try to give me a little justice, and print my name and address.

James I. Henderson  
P.O. Box 27264  
Richmond, Virginia

\*\*\*\*\*Dear Readers:

Although it may seem that none of the persons listed in the pen pal section write back, I must say that is not found to be entirely true. I have enjoyed a very rich and rewarding correspondence with a young man whose name I selected from the list six months ago. Thank you Sherman for all those beautiful cards! And to all the *Right On!* readers who sent personal letters to me, don't worry, I do plan on answering each of you very soon. Keep the faith.

—Editor

## "I USED TO LIKE GOOD TIMES"

Dear Editor:

I used to really love the "Good Times" show, but now I'm not so sure. I've been watching it this season and so far, I don't like what I've seen. The show doesn't feel right without the father. I am truly disappointed in John Amos and producer Norman Lear. I guess the show would really be rolling if John Amos hadn't quarreled over money.



## CONTINUED

If I had my way, I would find a replacement for the father role instead of killing him off. Worst of all was the way the mother was acting, as though she didn't care too much about him. I just hope the ratings don't go down far enough for it to go off the air, though.

Robin Andrews, 16  
Laurelton, New York

## QUIT PUTTING PEOPLE DOWN!

### Dear Editor:

I just want to say something that's been bugging me for a long time. I am sick and tired of reading things in our magazine putting "whitey" down. I am white and am the only white person in my school! A lot of prejudice is thrown at me and my family, but that does not make me hate! That doesn't make me put down Black people as a race. How could I? All of my friends are Black. I just wish people would open their eyes. You don't have to be white to be prejudiced. White people are human and the color of a person's skin doesn't make their personality. You'd better believe that I've got "soul" with a capital "S" and nobody's gonna put me down!

Christina Brown

## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT "GET DOWN"?

### Dear Editor:

There is a dance show which is aired every Saturday from New Orleans called "Get Down." When is *Right On!* going to print something about the show and the show's fine brother, George Vinnette? I would also like to know how I can write to Mr. Vinnette.

Dawn Jackson

## JERMAINE'S AN INSPIRATION

### Dear Editor:

Thank you for putting in the article on Jermaine Jackson. The Jackson Five is my very favorite group and has been since "I Want You Back" hit number one. So I was a little worried and scared for Jermaine when he decided to leave the group. But now I can rest easier because I'm now positive that Jermaine is a level headed, intelligent person who can handle the position he's now in. I know that it must have been a terribly difficult decision to make.

Even though I was sorry to see Jermaine leave his brothers, I respect and honor his decision because he did what he thought was right. A lot of his comments were very inspiring and a

lot of Blacks should read them. I wish Jermaine the best of luck and the best life has to give.

Janis Yates

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER READER

### Dear Editor:

This is dedicated to Gwendolynn Mayfield whose letter appeared in the October issue. First of all, you are only "one" reader. You have different opinions just like everyone else. Maybe some people dig the Sylvers, J-5, and the Soul Train dancers. Maybe some don't. That's no reason to call them "freaky." Maybe you did have some bad experiences with stars. I have too. It's not just the stars who have bad days either. Don't you, or are you too "perfect"?

I think the Ask Dianne column is really beneficial to those who don't have mothers or big sisters or brothers to talk to. I don't, and it sure helps to know that Dianne is there. She doesn't tell anybody how to run their life; she simply gives advice. If you really are getting sick of the magazine, why don't you stop reading it? It's as simple as that!

Lydia Fruge  
Fremont, California

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## ANSWERS PAGE

### Answers to Disco Spin Gift Game

1. Distant Lover
2. You Got The Love
3. If I Ever Lose This Heaven
4. Door To Your Heart
5. She's Gone
6. Street Runner
7. Party Down

### Answers to the Movie Martian Game

- A. Diana Ross
- B. Larry Fishburne
- C. Philip Thomas
- D. Cicely Tyson
- E. Vernee Watson
- F. Diahann Carroll
- G. D'Urville Martin
- H. Glynn Turman
- I. Richard Pryor
- J. Billy Dee Williams
- K. Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs
- L. Bill Cosby
- M. Roger Mosley

# TOP 20

Here are the Top 20 national Disco tunes. These are also the records you are most likely to hear at parties and clubs...

1. SPRING AFFAIR—DONNA SUMMER/Donna has done it again. That sensual, mellow voice and good disco arrangement has made this single a winner at all the "in" discos. When it comes on, everybody dances.
2. ENJOY YOURSELF—JACKSONS/Great dance tune, the Jacksons have done it again.
3. OPEN SESAME—KOOL & THE GANG
4. I WISH—STEVIE WONDER/The album Songs In The Key Of Life is No. 1 and this is the No. 1 disco tune taken from that great album by the genius himself. Great arrangement, great tune. Popular at all discotheques around the U.S.
5. GET YOU SOMEONE NEW—LABELLE/This trio has another big hit on their hands. They still have that sure-fire beat that is Labelle.
6. YOU'RE MY DRIVING WHEEL—THE SUPREMES
7. TO THE POINT/WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND—BRASS CONSTRUCTION/Two very funky tunes by these brothers. Two of the best tunes for doing the lock.
8. SATURDAY NIGHT—EARTH, WIND & FIRE/Another chart-topper from the spirit album—Funky & Smooth.
9. SWEET TENDERONI—EDDIE KENDRICKS
10. DO THAT STUFF—PARLIAMENT
11. MAKES YOU BLIND—GLITTER BAND
12. SOUL CHA-CHA—VAN MCCOY
13. SHAKE YOUR RUMP TO THE FUNK—BAR KAYS
14. OOO CHA—SOUL TRAIN GANG
15. LOVE OF YOUR OWN/QUEEN OF MY SOUL—AVERAGE WHITE BAND
16. FAR EAST MISSISSIPPI—OHIO PLAYERS
17. FREE—DENIECE WILLIAMS/A beautiful well done ballad with a Minnie Riperton type sound.
18. FREE AND SINGLE—BROTHERS JOHNSON/Good follow up from Get The Funk. They get down as usual.
19. TRIED, TESTED AND FOUND TRUE—ASHFORD & SIMPSON
20. I'LL PLAY THE FOOL/CHER CHEZ LA FEMME, SI SE LA BON—DR. BUZZARD'S ORIGINAL SAVANNAH BAND

DISCO  
SPINS



## ALBUM STARS OF THE MONTH

# RECORD WORLD

### EVERYTHING MUST CHANGE



RANDY CRAWFORD

#### PART 3



K.C. AND THE SUNSHINE BAND

#### PORGY & BESS



RAY CHARLES AND CLEO LAINE

I had not been aware of Randy Crawford until I listened to this new album, but after hearing her sing, I feel that she is one of the finest vocalists today—male or female. She has a powerful voice!

This is her first album but she seems to have a lot of professional singing experience. This jazz/pop stylist handles her tunes well. "Everything Must Change" which was recorded live, shows her voice at its best so naturally this is one of the album's best cuts. On this song she uses

her voice to its best advantage with both high and low registers.

"I'm Easy" is free and flowing; a nice piece which Randy performs with ease. Other nice tunes on the album include "I Had To See You One More Time," "I've Never Been To Me," "Don't Let Me Down," and "Something So Right." This album was produced by Stewart Levine. Randy is an enjoyment and one of the freshest new artists to listen to.

J.C.

K.C. and the Sunshine Band has another hot album on their hands. The youthful looking K.C. has surrounded himself with some dynamite musicians. This album is bad! It's got plenty of "get down" material on it such as "From Baby I Love You (Yes I Do)" to "Keep It Comin' Love."

K.C. has captured a sound that reminds you a little of the Tower of Power kind of funk, but K.C. and the Sunshine Band have kept their fresh, youthful appeal. They really rock on all tunes which also

include "Wrap Your Arms Around Me," "I Like To Do It," "Shake Your Booty," "Let's Go To A Party," a song that's getting a good bit of playair, and let's see you stay still when this single plays.

"Come On In" keeps that heavy groove going, and they continue to romp through "I'm Your Boogie Man" and "Keep It Comin' Love"—they keep it comin' and give it all they've got. They perform well, the album rocks, and it's a must for any party!

J.C.

The genius of Ray Charles and the exciting, unique voice of Cleo Laine, both under the supervision of arranger/conductor Frank DeVol, makes this two-record set of songs from Gershwin's all Black musical *Porgy and Bess*, a must for your listening pleasure.

The story of *Porgy and Bess* was adapted from a DuBose Heywood novel and the all-Black production has become one of the most popular pieces of American work. Ray Charles and Cleo Laine are novel casting and they perform together superbly and complement each other well throughout this entire album. The album opens up with the free and

easy "Summertime." First played on organ by Ray, then a duet between Ray and Cleo, the song is performed in top-notch fashion. Ray Charles really gets down on such tunes as "A Woman Is A Sometime Thing," "It Ain't Necessarily So," "I Got Plenty Of Nuttin'," "Bess, You Is My Woman," and "Crab Man." Ray also plays different instruments on this album and he approaches them all well.

Dramatic singer Cleo Laine whirls through favorites such as "I Loves You Porgy," "My Man's Gone," "What You Want Wid Bess," "I Got Plenty Of Nuttin'" She handles her songs well! J.C.

## FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE



DONNA SUMMER

Donna Summer has come up with her best album to date. For those who thought that Donna has to moan and groan her way through a record, take a listen to *Four Seasons of Love*. Although many classify her as only a disco artist, she contributes both to disco and pop and she is convincing many people that she's not going to be one of those one or two hit record artists that you don't hear from again.

There are five cuts on this album, with "Spring Affair" as the stand-out piece. All have potential single airplay, all are extended disco songs, and then there's that sultry oohing and erotic moaning of the first lady of love. All songs were written by Donna Summer, Giorgio Moroder and Peter Bellotte.

The seasonal moods are "Spring Affair" and "Summer Fever." Both are very hot, popular back-to-back tunes at the "in" discos. Side two flows easily with "Autumn Change" and "Winter Melody," a beautiful and well-done tune.

Donna Summer's voice is used well and the people backing her are aware of her vocal qualifications and they put them to good use. Just as you think she is going to slow down a little, "Spring Affair" jumps back at you to finish this super-slick album (not to mention the beautiful album cover) by beautiful Donna.

The Munich Machine, arranger Thor Baldursson, Susan Munao, and the rest of the folks behind this lady really seem to know what they're doing and the year of '77 may see Donna Summer as the new Disco Queen.

J.C.

## ENCHANTMENT



ENCHANTMENT

This group of five talented men have come up with an album that's pure, simple, and an enjoyment. The vocals,

whether solo or not, have fantastic harmony that is clean and clear. All songs are fresh and done with great gusto. They perform ballads very well and handle up tempo tunes with a style that makes them stand out from other more mature male acts.

With the backing of United Artists Records, with the right kind of guidance, this group could really be an act to watch, because the talented sound is there. Songs on the album include "Sexy Lady," "Come On And Ride," "Gloria," "Thank You Girl For Loving Me," "Hold On," "Sunshine," "Dance To The Music," and "My Rose."

J.C.

## SPIRIT



EARTH, WIND, AND FIRE

On their newest album on Columbia Records, Earth, Wind, and Fire continue to please the people with their own unique style. Their music is dynamic and original and they continue to give people of all age groups and races what they want.

Like on past albums, they perform tunes that kind of stay with you. Songs include the hit single "Getaway," "Saturday Night," which is getting a lot of airplay, "Imagination," and "Spirit." The writers, musicians, and arrangers all help to make this album good. Maurice White and Earth, Wind, and Fire seem to have different and original ideas and they work. All fans of this talented, innovative band will be very pleased.

J.C.

## BO & RUTH



BO KIRKLAND AND RUTH DAVIS

Bo and Ruth perform well and this debut LP showcase this handsome pair with a lot of singing ability and experience. The LP slows down on a couple of their songs but the album keeps you interested.

The songs are geared to the more mature adult, and can make lovers' hearts throb. They included "I Feel Love

In This Room," "To Make You Love Me," "Train Of Desire," "You're Gonna Get Next To Me" (a stand-out cut), popular "Easy Loving," "Can You Feel It," etc. ...The material and arrangements are good.

J.C.

## SOLID



MICHAEL HENDERSON

Michael Henderson has had a lot of experience in the record business. He has played with all the super stars from the Rolling Stones to Stevie Wonder. Michael wrote, produced, and arranged this LP.

Tunes include "Solid," "Treat Me Like A Man," "Stay With This Summer," "Let Love Enter," "Be My Girl," and "Valentine Love," which shows off his vocal talent. It's a beautiful cut. If you like jazz, pop, or R & B, Michael performs them all well and you'll find something for your taste in this album.

J.C.

## MAGIC TOUCH

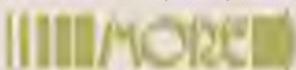


TONY SILVESTER & THE NEW INGREDIENT

Tony Silvester is a creative genius. After he left the Main Ingredient he is still a powerful force in the music business, whether he's working with another artist or producing himself as he does on this great album. Tony has that certain touch and this LP sparkles.

The album opens with a slick "Magic Touch" and a sensual "Pazuzu" which works well. The instrumental by Berry White is very good and done very well. Tony has a variety of material which also includes "The Tender Side Of Love," "Cosmic Lady," and "Soca."

Tony on percussion works with a multi-talented group of male and female vocals and musicians and Tony knows just what



**CONTINUED**

to do with them. The album cover is great and the LP is even better, and after hearing this one, I now see why Tony Silvester is one of the busiest producers in the business.

**J.C.****DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER****DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER**

Vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater, who won a Tony Award for her role as the "good witch" in the Broadway all-Black version of *The Wiz*, has a new album out on Atlantic Records. Dee Dee is more of a jazz singer, but she doesn't get to show off much of that side since this album is more of a pop/disco style.

The LP is good for her first attempt and she seems comfortable with the variety of songs that she is given. It opens with a fast disco version of the Platters' old tune, "My Prayer." This tune could

become very popular at clubs, since it's really a good dance record. Her back-group singers on "It Ain't Easy" complement her very well. She does a very soulful and outstanding "He's Gone," made famous by Tavares. The arrangements on "He's Gone" are fantastic and the singers, musicians, and Dee Dee work well.

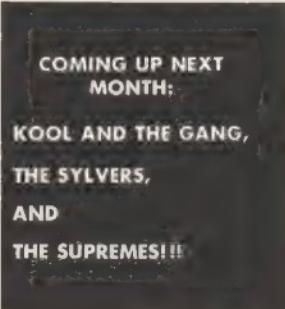
Other stand-out tunes include "You Saved Me," "Every Man Wants Another Man's Woman," and a slow ballad, "My Prayer," showing how versatile this jazz performer can be. A variety of material is on her first album and all of it is a winner.

**J.C.****THE SOUL TRAIN GANG****THE SOUL TRAIN GANG**

The Soul Train Gang's new album is a big improvement over their other efforts.

A few of the songs may have to grow on you but there are some strong cuts on this LP and the fellas are more prominent than on the last album. They seem to be holding on to a certain identifiable style and that's what makes this album funky.

Opening with a strong "That Certain Way" featuring Gerald Brown and Pat Williams, a sexy "Ooh Cha" by Denise Smith follows. This attractive group romps through "All My Life," "Soul Train Theme," and "If It Takes All Night," another great tune with slick harmony that reminds you a little of the style of the Delophonics. Their style is much better on this LP and they will get even better because the quality and talent is there.

**J.C.**

# **PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACtIONS!!! NEXT MONTH'S RIGHT ON! WILL FEATURE:**

**BONUS COLOR PIX OF THE JACKSONS!!!**

**THE STAPLES' HOLIDAY PLANS**

**NORMAN CONNORS: A CHILD PRODIGY**

**SO YOU'RE INTERESTED IN COSTUME  
DESIGNING ...**

**AND MUCH MORE!**

**ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTANDS  
JANUARY 25!**



# AT HOME WITH ACTOR GREG MORRIS!

## HANDSOME GREG MORRIS TAKES TIME OFF FROM ACTING TO RAP TO YOUNG TEENS. HERE'S GREG—IN THE FLESH! READ ON!!!

BY SHELL SLATON  
PHOTOS BY KENNY LIEU

If you go to school one day and find Greg Morris sitting in your classroom, it's not a dream or a sign that you've passed away and gone to heaven, you can definitely believe your eyes! Thousands of brothers and sisters across the country can testify to that fact be-

cause they've had a chance to rap with him in their schools too.

Yes, that good-looking gadget man of "Mission: Impossible," who's imagination and electrical know-how foiled many a government enemy, has made himself available, not for marriage (unfortunately he's

already got a pretty wife and three teenagers), but for talking about drugs and how it's not cool to let them abuse your body. Besides turning a lot of students on to the harmful effects of narcotics, he encourages the students to finish their education, and is there to give them



Greg is definitely a family man. He has pictures of his wife and kids posted all over his beautiful Beverly Hills ranch-style home.



He gets in a thoughtful-serious mood when he thinks of the harm drugs bring to kids who use them. He cares enough to warn them.



When Greg speaks to a person, he looks directly at them. A parade could pass by and Greg would still concentrate on the speaker.

||||| MORE →

NUED

# GREG MORRIS



He gets enthusiastic when he talks about sports. Although not as athletic as he used to be, he still likes to play basketball.

suggestions about how to make it in society.

Those are heavy subjects, but Greg Morris is a heavy person. Talking with him is like working with a miner. You ask him a light question, full of sand, and he sifts it around and comes up with an answer full of gold dust.

For example, ask him what kind of girl he liked before he got married and he says, "Pretty ones, you

have to remember that I'm a Libra." He chuckles, and then his smile relaxes into a more thoughtful look. "I used to dig lovely ladies, but not dumb ones. Those who were challenging, not in the sense of challenging my masculinity, but who were stimulating mentally.

Physical love is a gas, and I'm not about to say that it's not, because it is. But physical love is

much better if you can rap before entering into it, and again after it's over. What's important is the attraction that's always there even after physical love. That's the best kind. A reciprocal relationship between a man and a woman, is what's really beautiful."

As he speaks, his low bass voice vibrates around in your ribs and it's easy to see why he was a popular disc jockey when he attended Iowa State University. In fact, he was so good at it that he got a job at a major radio station called WSUI.

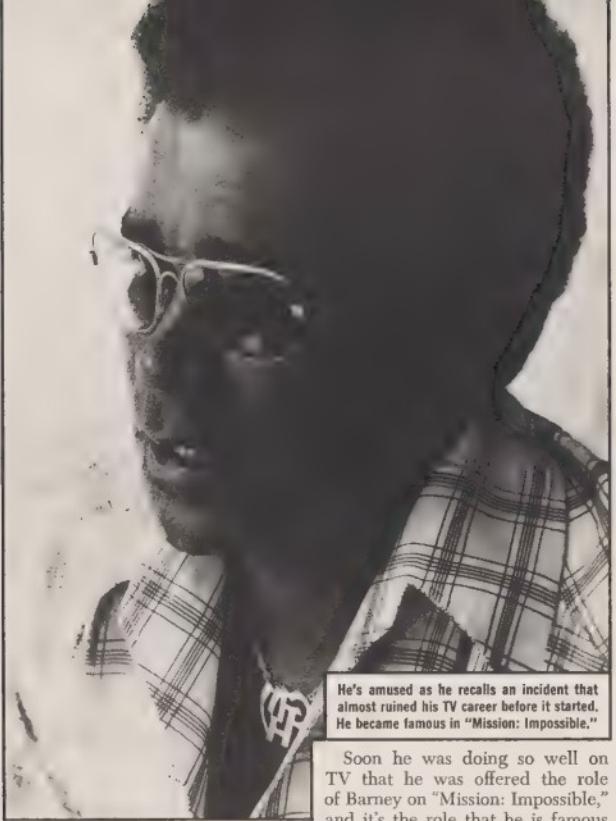
But he enjoyed playing basketball more than anything else. He dug it so much and played it so well that he was practically destined for a career as a professional athlete.

## TURNS ANGER INTO A POSITIVE THING!

His love for sports began when he was a little kid in Harlem, using games like stickball "to occupy my mind." Later, as a teenager who then lived on the southside of Chicago, he used sports to release anger and frustration. "After playing baseball, football, or running track, I was too tired to be uptight. I've always preferred to turn anger into something positive rather than something negative." By the time he got in college and was planning to make a career out of sports, an unexpected incident happened that changed his direction completely.

What was the incident? He smelled greasepaint! Greg says it happened when he entered the drama department at the university. "I literally smelled the greasepaint and decided that was for me. I didn't get it in my blood, I got it in my nose! My friends all thought I was crazy. Being an actor at that time was tough enough, but being a Black actor was foolhardy."

Evidently his instincts knew he wasn't "foolhardy" because after acting in several movies and plays, then finally trying out for a film that rejected him, Greg landed a big part on the "Ben Casey" TV show. The same casting director who had turned Greg down earlier, remembered him and offered him the part. Greg remembers how he felt. "I was scared! It was my first time on a major TV set."



He's amused as he recalls an incident that almost ruined his TV career before it started. He became famous in "Mission: Impossible."

## THIS ACTOR WAS ONCE A SOAP OPERA STAR

He recalls how he had to make the transition from movies to TV. One experience on the set almost proved to be disastrous. He was playing a role on a daytime soap opera show called "General Hospital." His TV girlfriend had been battered up in fight and Greg was being filmed in her hospital room talking with her and a friend, Johnny Beradino.

"After John said his lines he looked at me and waited for me to say mine. But all of a sudden I couldn't remember them. I wanted to say 'cut' like we do in the movies, and take it all over. But you can't do that on TV. Johnny knew I had forgotten my lines, he could see it in my eyes. So he started feeding me lines like 'Did you go to the drugstore? What did the doctor say?' to help me remember. I finally did."

Soon he was doing so well on TV that he was offered the role of Barney on "Mission: Impossible," and it's the role that he is famous for. He also did a little daylighting on "Password" and came near to breaking a record, because he appeared the second most times of any guest on the show.

## GREG LOVES SHOOTING PICTURES

Behind him, a face peers through the glass door at Greg, who's sitting on the patio in front of his pool. It's his 14-year-old daughter, Linda. Greg calls her Stump. "Because when she was little she was so short." He consents to reveal the rest of the family nicknames. "Iona, who is 19, is called Ony." His personal phone rings, trying to interrupt him, but a slight lift in his eyebrow is the only indication that he has heard it. Despite the ringing, he continues looking at you intently and giving you the rest of the nicknames. "My son Philip, 18, is Flip or Flop." And you notice, as his son jogs in the house, soon afterward, that Flip or Flop is ex-

tremely handsome. "My wife is Stinky, and she calls me Ob. Because Ob is short for observant." The phone finally stops ringing.

If you saw Greg in Sanford and Son's Hawaiian Connection episode a while ago and wondered what he does when he's not on TV, all you have to do is take a walk through his house. There's a huge expensive tape recorder that Greg reprograms albums on. It's a hobby which blossomed out of those disc jockey days. In his plush Beverly Hills living room is a mirror-photo-painting created in Nigeria. It was a gift given to him when he starred in a film there called "Countdown at Kusini." Another gift, a totem pole of elephants was given to him when he traveled to Thailand to do another film. While walking through you notice that something smells deliciously good and your stomach begins to growl. His wife Lee is a very good cook. Some of her recipes have been published in celebrity cookbooks. The most famous one is called "Ob's Chicken." The photos on Greg's wall also say that he's an excellent photographer.

Back on the patio, you ask him what things are worthwhile in life. He thinks for a moment and then says, "There are three important things. The first important thing, is to listen. Many people hear, and have ears but never really listen. The second is to care." As he says this his hands fold out like an open book, as if he is personally handing you his words.

"It's nothing when you sympathize and pity someone. But it counts when you care. And the third is to say 'I am' and be happy about it. You don't have to be egotistical, just be positive about yourself. Look in the mirror and say, 'Yeah, I've made a few mistakes, but I've done quite a few good things too.' No one in life goes by unaffected by disappointments and setbacks. But winners are the least affected because winners don't have the time for them."

It's obvious that Greg's a winner, and his fans are anxious to see him back on the TV sets. But like Sidney Poitier, and Cicely Tyson, Greg is holding out for a quality, meaningful role. Meanwhile, don't be surprised if you run into him at school tomorrow.

# KANDIDKAMERA



When she was just getting started, she did back up work for singers like Dionne Warwick, Johnny Mathis, and Jerry Butler.



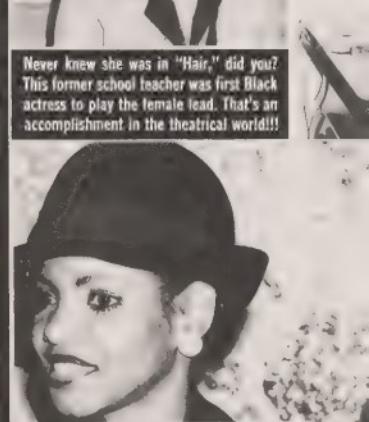
Melba lived in New York City on 108th St. until she was 9. Then she moved to New Jersey where she finished her childhood!



Her beauty is expressed in many forms: as a carefree young girl, & a lonely, lost waif.



Not only is Melba Moore extremely sophisticated, but she's also very talented. A "mistress of all trades," she is consultant to children's show, "Big Blue Marble."



Never knew she was in "Hair," did you? This former school teacher was first Black actress to play the female lead. That's an accomplishment in the theatrical world!!!

This "peachy" performer has received the Tony Award, N.Y. Critics Awards, and the Drama Desk Award as best actress in a musical. She's co-hosted many TV shows!

# KANDIDKAMERA

# THE BROTHERS JOHNSON



COLOR  
*Right on!*  
**BONUS!**

# WHY DENNIS

# QUIT THE TEMPTS!!!



# THE TEMPTS!!!

## WHY DENNIS QUIT

**DENNIS EDWARDS  
RECENTLY FOLLOWED  
THE FOOTSTEPS OF  
DAMON HARRIS,  
EDDIE KENDRICKS,  
AND DAVID RUFFIN!  
WHAT DOES HIS  
FUTURE HOLD???**

BY CYNTHIA HORNER

On October 7, 1976, the Temptations' public relations firm, the Brokaw Company, sent out a letter which simply stated that the Temptations and Dennis Edwards were officially splitting so that Edwards could pursue a solo career. This announcement put an end to months of speculation about Dennis' future with the Temptations.

Edwards, whose last performance with the Tempts took place October 1 at the Los Angeles Forum (an almost sell-out concert) was first said to be leaving the group

in August. By September it was common knowledge in "inner circles" that the 33-year-old singer would be leaving the group soon.

When *Right On!* talked to the Tempts the last week in September, the group members who were interviewed failed to mention that they were losing Edwards, a nine-year veteran of the popular Motown act. Perhaps some of this stems from a long tradition of the Tempts to remain known as a group which has an almost scandal-free reputation, choosing to remain dignified as their status calls for.

Edwards never fully explained *all* of his reasons for leaving the Tempts nor did he issue a statement on the subject. He was also unavailable for comment.

When asked to comment on Dennis in general, singers Melvin Franklin and Glenn Leonard made comments which are very fitting for Dennis' send-off:

"Dennis is a beautiful dude. He may come off flighty but under-



neath all that flightiness is a real and good person. He was an only child growing up and he lost his father when he was a teenager.

"Dennis . . . he's extroverted. He's a force within the group just like Otis Williams is a force within the group.

"He's very quick. He's lightning quick. He and Otis are the only guys that I have ever had in the studio who would sing their song in one taping and do it the same way every time," Melvin remembered.

"He's also very youthful in his mannerisms and his nature. And though he's never been called an original Temptation, other than Otis and me, he has put in more years than anybody else. He came here in 1968 (June 28) and that's nine years in a man," Melvin finished.



Thus the Temptations said goodbye to one of their greatest friends who was with them during their triumphs and heartaches, platinum albums and gold singles. Their latest album, *The Temptations Do The Temptations* will be a special classic album for all Tempts fans to buy who want to

remember Dennis with the group. And as Melvin said before, "You'll never read any scandal about the Temptations." It's true. Even though split-ups are often rough and there are sometimes hard feelings behind them, the Temptations are conscious of the fact that not only are they a group,



they are now an institution and they want to stress all the good there is to discuss and they thank God for having given them a chance to be what they are . . . one of the greatest Black groups America has ever had! Good luck, Dennis!

# THE TEMPTATIONS



PHOTOS BY RON PHILLIPS



WITH DENNIS  
EDWARDS

Right On!  
COLOR BONUS!

SOUL STARS OF THE MONTH . . .



# ARETHA FRANKLIN!!!

# ARETHA FRANKLIN!!!

# ARETHA FRANKLIN!!!

The new Aretha Franklin is slim, pretty and more soulful than ever. The "Queen of Soul" is a musical artist who sings feelings so real that if your ears were fingers, you could touch them. She is the sum total of her gospel background, her heartaches, her happiness, and her loves. At age 34 she is already a legend.

Although she was born in Memphis, Tennessee, she spent most of her childhood in Detroit, Michigan where she sang in her father's church with her brothers and sisters. At fourteen, she joined her minister father's evangelical tour and sang as a soloist. At eighteen she switched to blues singing and was signed by Columbia Records.

She wasn't comfortable with them because they didn't know how to showcase and develop her talent. They didn't realize that they possessed one of the greatest

women singers in the history of the world. So in 1966 she joined Atlantic records and immediately made her first gold record, "I Never Loved a Man the Way I Love You." Many more gold records followed. She had a knack for making a hit every time she opened her mouth to record a song. "Rock Steady," "Spanish Harlem," "Daydreaming," "Think," "I Say A Little Prayer," are just a few of her classics.

Then in 1976 she wowed the crowds again with her album *Sparkle*, and that movin' tune, "Something He Can Feel." Well, she's done it again, as usual with her successful disco single, "Jumped/Hooked On Your Love." The more she sings, the more we swing. Aretha's one lady that knows how to *get down*. And because of this *Right On!* gratefully names her as this issue's Soul Star of the Month. Right On!

# Last Minute Bits and Pieces!..



B. COLLINS



H. MASEKELA



R. MOSELY



L. JACOBS



I. CARA

Hi there! Whew, I just got back from an exciting trip to New Orleans where I attended Parliament/Funkadelic's concert. Their new show is just fabulous and I really enjoyed seeing HUGH MASEKELA and BOOTSY COLLINS!!! Bootsy did his thing as usual, and I loved him! We had a posh after-the-concert party later that night and I was really tickled to see that GEORGE CLINTON's dress is just as wild off stage as on!

By now you may have heard that RUFUS featuring CHAKA KHAN is no more! She quit the group and will probably be striking out on her own as a solo artist.

LABELLE (Patti, Nona, and Sara) did their thing as usual, and the weirdos did theirs. Of course, the concert was fantastic but then, this is one group who knows how to please an audience. Celebrities such as ROGER MOSELY and THELMA HOUSTON attended the after party and Roger remarked that I don't look like an editor. Well, folks, what is an editor supposed to look like? If anyone can answer that question, let me know!

IRENE CARA sends her thanks for being chosen "Top Actress" by Right On! She's really grateful for the honor. LARRY JACOBS will be delivering her plaque in person when he visits New York. He's planning a recording career, by the way!

The Jacksons' TV show is really marvelous. There is an unbelievable amount of talent in that family, and when Jackie developed a leg cramp, he took a short rest and then carried on. They stayed on the set really late to get the best results possible. Be sure to watch this show.

When I delivered HAYWOOD NELSON's fan mail to him, he blushed up a storm. What did you fans say to him anyway? He won't tell! Have you heard BLACK IVORY's new album yet? They produced it themselves and wrote most of the songs too! Look out for color pix on these handsome young men. Same goes for Jimmy Briscoe's group. Well, I have to go. Be seeing ya!



C. KHAN



RUFUS



B. IVORY



H. NELSON



G. CLINTON



Darwin Scans



McCoy Edits